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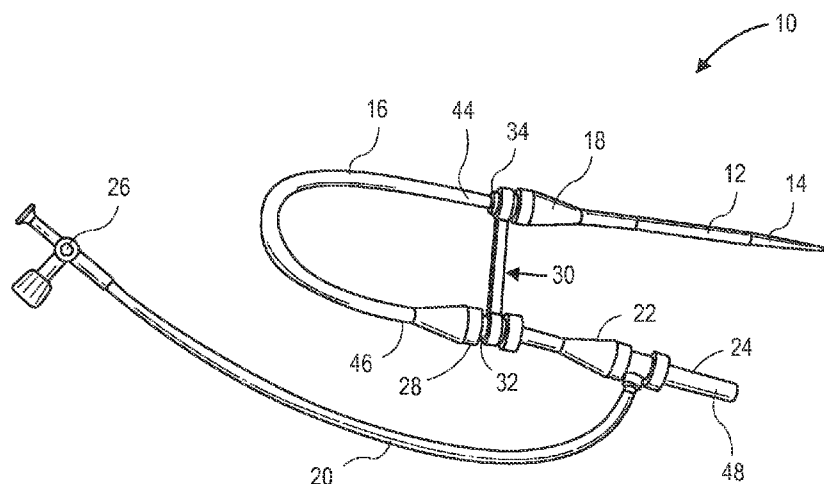




FIG. 1A

(57) Abstract: The present application includes a sheath that is suitable for use in a variety of medical procedures. In one or more implementations, the sheath includes a shunt member, and a curvable portion. The curvable portion may be configured in various orientations to facilitate an intervention, such as a hemodialysis intervention, or the like, by an operator. The curvable portion may be configured to bend between a substantially straight configuration and a curved configuration. In implementations, the sheath may be configured to have detachable and/or interchangeable components (e.g., shunt member, curvable portion, etc.).



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
<i>A61M 39/08(2006.01)i, A61M 39/12(2006.01)i, A61M 25/01(2006.01)i, A61M 1/14(2006.01)i</i>		
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) A61M 39/08; A61M 31/00; A61M 5/00; A61F 2/06; A61M 5/178		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Korean utility models and applications for utility models Japanese utility models and applications for utility models		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: hemodialysis, shunt, detachable, junction, sheath		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2005-0165364 A1 (DIMATTEO et al.) 28 July 2005 See the abstract; claims 1-4 and 18-19; paragraphs 17-20; and figs.1-2.	1-20
A	US 03998222 A (SHIHATA) 21 December 1976 See the abstract; claims 1-5; columns 3-7; and figs.1-3.	1-20
A	US 7553326 B2 (SWEET et al.) 30 June 2009 See the abstract; claim 1; column 3, line 39 - column 4, line 19; and fig.1.	1-20
A	US 2008-0171944 A1 (BRENNEMAN et al.) 17 July 2008 See the abstract; claims 1 and 106; paragraphs 38-39 and 50-52; and figs.1-3 and 10.	1-20
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family
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