Title: CLOSED SYSTEM CATHETERIZATION ASSEMBLY AND RELATED METHODS

Abstract: The invention concerns catheterization assemblies (100) designed to reduce the risk of infection, transmission of blood borne pathogens, loss of blood, and development of embolisms in a patient. Embodiments of the invention are directed to a catheterization assembly (100) having a catheter hub (10) with multiple access ports. In some embodiments, the catheter hub (10) is permanently attached to a catheter (20) and a valve (30). The catheter hub (10) provides fluid communication between the valve (30) and the catheter (20). The catheter hub (10) may also be provided with a sealing member (50) that provides access to a fluid passageway of the catheter hub (10) but which prevents leakage of fluids from the catheter hub (10). In other embodiments, the catheter hub (10) includes a passageway (12) and an air vent (65) for allowing air to pass out of the catheterization assembly (100).
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US04/02721

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61M 25/00
US Cl. : 604/284

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 604/284, 523, 533, 539, 167.02, 167.03

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched.

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
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<td>Y P</td>
<td>US 4,311,137 A (GERARD) 19 January 1982 (19.01.1982), See entire document.</td>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search
02 December 2004 (02.12.2004)

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