

of the Y-adaptor and the introducer needle. Other simple means of accomplishing the same will be obvious to those skilled in the manufacture of such articles.

In FIG. 7 there is illustrated an end portion of a conventional J-wire 60 and end straightener 61 disclosed more fully in the aforementioned U.S. Pat. No. 4,917,094 and/or 5,125,905. The wire end straightener 61 is insertable into valve 15 of the connector permitting easy passage of the J-wire therethrough.

We claim:

1. A device for use in central venous catheterization comprising a Y-connector having a main arm and a side arm as an integral unit, a main passage through said main arm and an auxiliary passage through said side arm, said auxiliary passage merging into said main passage and at a selected angle thereto, said main arm having a distal end sealingly insertable directly into a socket of an introducer needle and a proximal end, said proximal end having a cavity thereto sealingly to receive directly therein a nozzle end portion of a syringe, said main passage providing fluid flow communication between a passage through said introducer needle and said syringe, said auxiliary passage commencing at an open inlet end thereto and terminating at an end opposite thereto which merges into said main passage at a position between said syringe nozzle and said introducer needle, means, on at least one of a portion of said main passage adjacent said distal end and said socket of said introducer needle, to guide the leading end of a guide wire fed progressively through said auxiliary passage into a passage through the introducer needle and a one way valve means in said auxiliary passage at said open inlet end thereof, said one way valve having a normally closed opening therethrough preventing back flow of blood from said side arm during use of the device and permitting alternately removably inserting directly thereinto an end portion of a tube and a guide wire to be fed through said introducer needle.

2. A device as defined in claim 1 including means retaining said valve in said auxiliary passage.

3. A device as defined in claim 2 wherein said valve means has a normally closed slit at one end thereof providing said normally closed opening and an open ended cylindrical sleeve portion at the other end, wherein said side arm has a rib directed outwardly around the periphery thereof and wherein a portion of

the open end of the valve is rolled over said rib thereby providing said valve retaining means.

4. A device as defined in claim 2 wherein said means comprises an annular cap snap-fit onto said auxiliary arm and with an outer rim portion of said valve being held captive between such cap and said side arm circumscribing entry into said auxiliary passage.

5. A device as defined in claim 1 wherein said valve has a main body portion that is generally conical in form providing a tapering cavity to receive therein said tube end portion, said valve having a slit at the end of the conical cavity providing said opening through.

6. Apparatus for use in central venous catheterization comprising a Y-connector having a main arm and a side arm as an integral unit, a main passage through said main arm and an auxiliary passage through said side arm, said auxiliary passage merging into said main passage and at a selected angle thereto, said main arm having a distal end sealingly insertable directly into a socket of an introducer needle and a proximal end, said proximal end having a cavity therein sealingly to receive directly therein a nozzle end portion of a syringe, said main passage providing fluid flow communication between a passage through said introducer needle and said syringe, said auxiliary passage commencing at an open inlet end thereto and terminating at an end opposite thereto which merges into said main passage at a position between said syringe nozzle and said introducer needle, means, on at least one of a portion of said main passage adjacent said distal end and said socket of said introducer needle, to guide the leading end of a guide wire fed progressively through said auxiliary passage into a passage through the introducer needle and a one way valve means in said auxiliary passage at said open inlet end thereof, said one way valve having a normally closed opening therethrough preventing back flow of blood, during use, from said side arm and permitting alternately removably inserting directly thereinto an end portion of a tube and a guide wire to be fed through said introducer needle and a length of flexible tubing for use therewith, said tubing having means thereon to limit the depth of penetration of an end portion thereof into said valve.

7. Apparatus as defined in claim 6 wherein said tubing is open at each of its opposite ends.

8. Apparatus as defined in claim 7 wherein said tubing is PVC.

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