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(71) Applicant:
**Medimop Medical Projects Ltd.
43000 Ra'anana (IL)**

(72) Inventor: **Zinger, Fredy
Raanana 43611 (IL)**

(74) Representative:
**Grünecker, Kinkeldey,
Stockmair & Schwanhäusser
Anwaltssozietät
Maximilianstrasse 58
80538 München (DE)**

(54) **Fluid access assembly and a method for preparing a liquid drug**

(57) A fluid access assembly (1) for use with a syringe (4), a vial (6) having a stopper (8) or an ampoule (9,28,34,36) with a frangible end (10) and a sealed end (11), the assembly comprising a vial adapter (2) having a first cannula (12) with a proximal portion (13) for sealingly receiving the syringe and a distal portion (14) for puncturing the vial's stopper; and an ampoule adapter (3,26,28,32,37) having a second cannula (19,27,29) with a proximal portion (19A) initially sealingly and detachably mounted on the first cannula distal portion, the second cannula being dimensioned to abut against the previously opened ampoule's sealed end on its sliding onto said second cannula thereby enabling aspiration of its contents into the syringe, characterized in the ampoule adapter (3) having a body portion (18) with at least one pair of oppositely disposed gripping members (24,33,38) substantially co-directional and co-extensive with the second cannula for respectively receiving the ampoule's opened end therein and gripping opposite sides of at least the ampoule's lower portion towards its sealed end on said sliding.

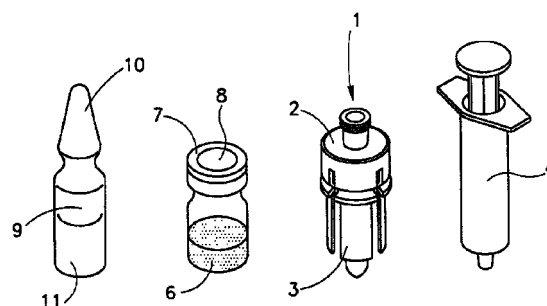


FIG. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 98 11 5546

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 17 September 1999	Examiner Godot, T
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

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