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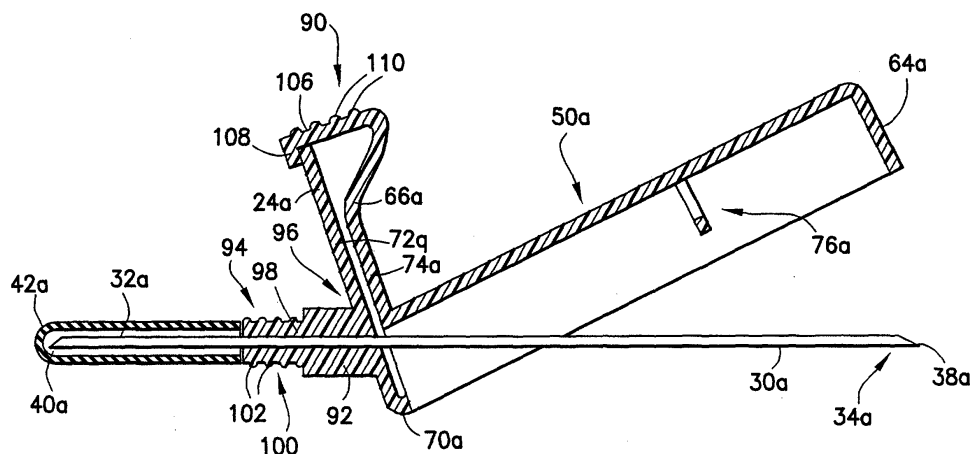
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(54) **Shieldable needle assembly with biased safety shield**

(57) The present invention is directed to a needle safety device including a medical device, such as a needle holder or a syringe. The device includes a needle cannula having a puncture tip extending from an end of the medical device. A shield pivotably connected to the medical device is pivotal with respect to the needle cannula between a shielded position encompassing the needle cannula and a retracted or non-shielded position pivotally spaced from the needle cannula. The shield in-

cludes a laterally extending lever, and the medical device includes a laterally extending arm. A biasing element having stored energy for biasing the needle cannula toward the shielded position is positioned between the lever and the arm. Movement of the lever and the arm toward each other pivots the shield to the retracted position, and releasing the lever and arm allows the stored energy of the spring to pivot the shield into the shielded position.



**FIG.10**

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