

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
National Institutes of Health
**Government-Owned Inventions;
Availability for Licensing**

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

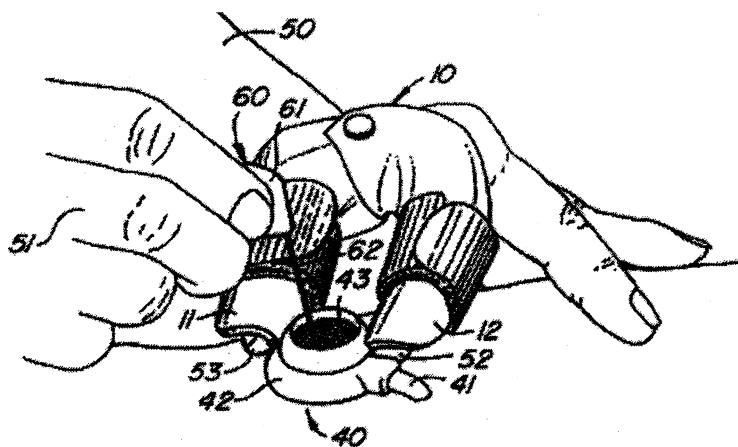
SUMMARY: The invention listed below is owned by an agency of the U.S. Government and is available for licensing in the U.S. in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 207 to achieve expeditious commercialization of results of

federally-funded research and development. Foreign patent applications are filed on selected inventions to extend market coverage for companies and may also be available for licensing.

ADDRESSES: Licensing information may be obtained by writing to the indicated licensing contact at the Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Suite 325, Rockville, Maryland 20852-3804; telephone: 301/496-7057; fax: 301/402-0220.

Hand Puncture Protector for Nurses

Description of Technology: Available for licensing and commercial development is a device that provides nurses or other health care workers with protection against accidental needle sticks. Specifically, a device has been created which protects the most susceptible areas on the back and sides of the thumb, forefinger and the area of the hand there between. This offers the notable advantage of preventing infections from accidental needle sticks. This invention is particularly useful during the risky task of inserting a twisted or kinked needle (such as a Huber needle) into a pot-a-cath.



Inventors: Bonnie C. Thornton *et al.* (CC).

Patent Status: U.S. Patent No. 5,706,520 issued 13 Jan 1998 (HHS Reference No. E-104-1992/0-US-01).

Licensing Status: Available for non-exclusive or exclusive licensing.

Licensing Contact: Michael A. Shmilovich, Esq.; 301/435-5019; shmilovm@mail.nih.gov.

Dated: April 19, 2006.

Steven M. Ferguson,

Director, Division of Technology Development and Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health.

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Predictive Test for Age-Related Macular Degeneration in Asymptomatic Individuals

Description of Technology: Age-related macular degeneration (ARMD) is the leading cause of severe, irreversible

vision loss for those over the age of fifty in the United States and in other developed countries. Thirteen million Americans over the age of forty have ARMD. ARMD is caused by the deterioration of the central area of the retina, or macula, resulting in a loss of central vision. This disease is believed to be a multigenic disorder, and is triggered by environmental factors such as smoking, age or diet in genetically susceptible individuals.

The present invention describes a highly predictive genetic test for universal practical clinical use to identify individuals at increased risk for ARMD. It comprises a rapid, accurate and affordable genetic screen, utilizing DNA microarray technology on a single chip. Sixteen genes are screened for 90 mutations/polymorphisms associated with ARMD, with a high predictive power (up to 92.7%) to identify asymptomatic carriers at risk. Accurate prediction of genetic susceptibility to this disorder will allow interventions to protect at-risk individuals.

Application(s): Diagnostic kit to identify asymptomatic individuals at risk for age-related macular degeneration; make possible the