



INJURY PREVENTION

Quick Review of Safety

Needle Sticks and Sharps Injuries

SHARPS USE

When using needles, remember the following best practices to avoid injury.

- Do not recap needles. It is too easy to miss the needle with the cap and poke a finger.
- Always use needle safety devices when available every time.
- Use needleless devices when available.
- Always pay attention to your surroundings and others when using needles. Many needle sticks occur when the patient moves unexpectedly or when sharps are disposed of improperly.
- Dispose of the needles in an approved sharps container; never dispose of a needle in the garbage

SHARPS CONTAINERS

- Keep the sharps containers out of the reach of children.
- Do not empty one sharps container into another
- Do not overfill the sharps container. Many needle stick injuries occur when someone tries to overfill a container. If a container is full, please report it to have it changed.

NEEDLE STICKS OR SHARPS INJURY

- Wash punctures or cuts with soap and water.
- Flush the nose, mouth or skin with water if there is a splash.
- Irrigate eyes with clean water, saline or sterile irrigates for eye exposure.
- Report the incident to your supervisor.
- Seek medical treatment.



This document is intended for general purposes only and should not be construed as legal or coverage advice on any specific matter. Developed and provided by Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust.



INJURY PREVENTION

Quick Review of Safety

Needle Sticks and Sharps Injuries

SHARPS USE

When using needles, remember the following best practices to avoid injury.

- Do not recap needles. It is too easy to miss the needle with the cap and poke a finger.
- Always use needle safety devices when available every time.
- Use needleless devices when available.
- Always pay attention to your surroundings and others when using needles. Many needle sticks occur when the patient moves unexpectedly or when sharps are disposed of improperly.
- Dispose of the needles in an approved sharps container; never dispose of a needle in the garbage

SHARPS CONTAINERS

- Keep the sharps containers out of the reach of children.
- Do not empty one sharps container into another
- Do not overfill the sharps container. Many needle stick injuries occur when someone tries to overfill a container. If a container is full, please report it to have it changed.

NEEDLE STICKS OR SHARPS INJURY

- Wash punctures or cuts with soap and water.
- Flush the nose, mouth or skin with water if there is a splash.
- Irrigate eyes with clean water, saline or sterile irrigates for eye exposure.
- Report the incident to your supervisor.
- Seek medical treatment.



This document is intended for general purposes only and should not be construed as legal or coverage advice on any specific matter. Developed and provided by Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust.