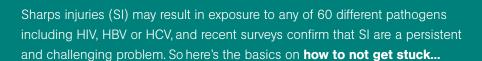
HOW TO PREVENT

SHARPS INJURIES





Ensure you are trained in the procedure and the device.

Don't rush a procedure.

Always use a sharps safety device where available.

Before procedure, ensure a sharps container is close by, and the aperture is open and clear.

Immediately after use, activate the safety device and discard into a sharps container.

Do not remove or recap a needle.

In the OR, never pass a sharp by hand, use a neutral zone.

If you drop a sharp, never leave it for someone else to pick-up.

Ensure a sharps container is closed before you move it.

Never overfill a sharps container. Never.

Always report your injury.

Dr Linda Good and Terry Grimmond, in their EXPO-S.T.O.P. surveys, found there are hospitals with SI rates consistently and significantly below the national average. Here's what they do that's different

Their creative practices fell into 5 strategies.



EDUCATION & TRAINING

Ensure competency for all new staff; re-training after injury or every 2 years.

COMMUNICATION

Injury rates & strategies are transparent to all staff; Non-SED to be used with permission.

INVESTIGATION

Reporting SI should be made easy 24/7; "drill down" on every injury; seek safer safety devices.

ENGAGEMENT

Hold users and managers responsible for safety and Safety Forums.

LEADERSHIP INVOLVEMENT

Align strategies with organization's goals; Use Exec as "back-up".

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