



ST. MARY'S *Catholic High School, Dubai*

PROTOCOL FOR NEEDLE STICK INJURIES

2026-2027

Protocol for Needle Sticks Injuries

Promptly disposing of used needles in appropriate sharps disposal containers is one way you can help prevent needle stick injuries.

Healthcare personnel who use or may be exposed to needles are at increased risk of needle-stick injury.

Needle stick injuries can lead to serious or fatal infections with blood borne pathogens such as hepatitis B virus, hepatitis C virus, or HIV.



Any worker who may come in contact with needles is at risk, including nursing staff, doctors, and housekeepers. Whenever a needle or other sharp device is exposed, injuries can occur. Certain work practices may increase the risk of needle stick injury.

The needle stick injuries are often associated with:

- ✓ Not using safety-engineered sharps or using them incorrectly
- ✓ Recapping needles
- ✓ Transferring a body fluid between containers
- ✓ Failing to dispose of used needles properly in puncture-resistant sharps containers

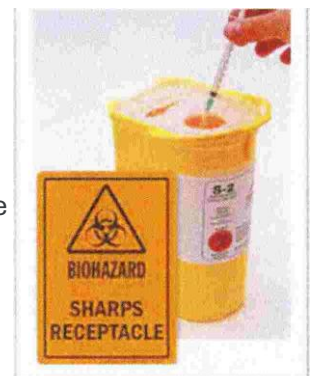


Prevent needle stick injuries:

Needle stick injuries can be avoided by eliminating the unnecessary use of needles, using devices with safety features, and promoting education and safe work practices for handling needles and related systems.

As a healthcare professional, you can protect yourself from a needle stick injury by:

- Avoiding recapping needles
- Planning for safe handling and disposal of needles before using them.
- Promptly disposing of used needles in conveniently placed and appropriate sharps disposal containers.
- Reporting all needle stick and sharps-related injuries promptly to ensure that you receive appropriate follow-up care.
- Telling your employer about any needle stick hazards you observe and promptly reporting any needle sticks and near-misses.
- Participating in training related to infection prevention.



- Getting a hepatitis B vaccination

What to do if you experience a needle stick injury

If you experienced a needle stick injury or were exposed to the blood or other body fluid of a patient during the course of your work, **immediately follow these steps:**

- The wound with running water and soap
- If eye exposure occurs, wash with saline or use the eye wash kit if available.
- Report the incident to your supervisor and seek medical intervention.
- Assist the exposed and the source for blood investigations .
 - For the source
 - HIV I & II antibodies
 - Hbs Ag, Anti HCV
 - For the exposed
 - HIV I & II antibodies
 - Hbs Ag, Anti Hbs, Anti HCV

Review Date:	August 2026
Next Review Date:	June 2027