

Needle/Sharps Safety:

1. Contaminated needles and/or other contaminated sharps will not be removed or recapped unless no alternative method is practical or is required by a specific medical procedure.
2. Needle recapping or removal deemed necessary must use a mechanical means (i.e., hemostat) or a one-handed "scoop" technique.
3. Personnel must review the needle safety poster on the UTHSC Safety Information webpage (http://www.uthsc.edu/safety/pdfs/needle_safety.pdf).
4. Contaminated sharps must be placed in an appropriate, designated container until properly processed. The container must be puncture resistant, labeled or color coded, and leak-proof on the sides and bottom.
5. Non-disposable sharps must be placed in a hard walled container for transport to a processing area for decontamination.
6. Broken glassware must not be handled directly. A broom and dustpan, tongs or forceps should be used. Plastic ware should be substituted for glassware whenever possible.
7. Accidental needle stick must be immediately reported to supervisor and Corvel (State of Tennessee Workman's Compensation agent). Contact information can be found here: <http://riskmanagement.tennessee.edu/wcomp/Workers%20Compensation%20Poster.pdf>