

ALERT

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PLEASE POST - PLEASE POST - PLEASE POST - 4/8/09

Sharps Disposal – Recent Incidents

There have been 2 sharps incidents in the past month. Both involved a housekeeping employee sustaining a prick from a sharp that should have been discarded into a sharps container. One of these employees is now taking prophylactic treatment for the injury.



Regardless of whether these items are used with potentially infectious materials or chemicals, ALL of the following MUST be placed in a commercially available sharps container (obtained through Fisher):

Pasteur pipets

Needles

Syringes (with or without a needle)

Glass culture dishes

Razor blades

Glass pipets

Scalpel blades

Glass blood vials

Broken contaminated glass items (test tubes, beakers, flasks)

Slides, cover slips

Lancets

Broken rigid plastic items (tubing, tubes, etc.)



Various sizes of sharps containers are available from Fisher

- Please remember to discard all of your sharps into the proper container
- Seal the sharps container with the lid provided before disposal – do not overfill
- DO NOT overfill medical waste bins
- Lab workers should close up the medical waste bin when the bin is ready to be changed
- Do not take the bins to the loading dock – Housekeeping will pick the bins up in your lab