

Dear Caregiver,



We appreciate your hard work and understand that it keeps you very busy. So busy that sometimes you may forget fundamental safety work practices. We made this safety insert especially for you so that you can refresh, learn and work safely without taking your time away from patient care.

Topic: Sharps Handling

Always:

- Dispose sharps in a sharps container that is:
 - Rigid
 - Puncture Resistant
 - Impermeable on sides and bottom
 - Portable
 - Closeable and sealable
- Use a one handed technique when recapping



Cap

Scoop

Snap

Never:

- Overfill a sharps container (2/3rds full)
- Shear, break, or bend contaminated sharps
- Use hand to place cap on needle
- Recap needles **UNLESS:**
 - new unused needles are removed from unused syringes that still has cap on the needle
 - required for procedure being done
 - Must use one handed recapping technique

Needlesticks are a serious hazard. NIOSH estimates that 600,000 to 800,000 needlesticks occur annually. Be cautious, avoid needlesticks. If you need more information please contact our safety specialists at safetyhasitsrewards@carewestinsurance.com.

Sincerely,
Care West Team

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