Safety-Engineered Sharps

**What is a safety-engineered sharp?**
The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) defines a safety-engineered sharp as a non-needle sharp or needle device with a built-in safety feature or mechanisms *that effectively reduces the risk of an exposure incident.* Examples of safety-engineered sharps include: syringes with guards or sliding sheaths, retractable needle systems, and shielded or retracting scalpels.

**When should I use a safety-engineered sharp?**
Ideally, principal investigators (PIs) should eliminate the use of sharps whenever possible and where safe and effective alternatives are available. However, when elimination of sharps is not feasible, safety-engineered sharps devices should be utilized whenever possible to reduce the risk of exposure to potentially infectious materials or hazardous chemicals.

**EXAMPLES**

**SLIDING SLEEVE SYRINGES:**
- **BD Safety-Lok™ Syringes**
  - needle retracts and locks into protective sleeve after use
  - available in 1, 3, 5, and 10ml sizes from Fisher Scientific

**PROTECTIVE SHEATH and RETRACTABLE NEEDLES:**
- **BD SafetyGlide™ Needles**
  - needle-tip shielding activation-assist technology incorporated into needle
  - available in variety of needle sizes from Fisher Scientific

- **Megellan™ Safety Needle**
  - Integral needle-based safety device
  - locked position completely covers entire needle
  - available in 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 25G needle sizes in variety of lengths from Fisher Scientific

- **BD Eclipse™ Needle**
  - pivoting shield mechanism; single finger stroke activation
  - available in 18, 21, 22, 23 and 25G needles of varying length from Fisher Scientific

- **VanishPoint® Syringes**
  - full depression of plunger activates needle retraction
  - available in 3, 5 and 10ml syringes with variety of needle gauges and lengths from Medline

**SAFETY BLOOD COLLECTION DEVICES**
- **Magellan™ Safety Blood Collection Device**
  - Available with either a 21 G or 22 G blood collection needle with integral needle-based safety device
  - available from Covidien

- **VanishPoint® Blood Collection Tube Holder**
  - compatible with standard blood collection needles
  - closing cap retracts needle directly from patient
  - available from Retractable Technologies
RETRACTABLE SCALPELS
➢ Retractable blades:

- DeRoyal Disposable Safety Scalpels
  - available in 10 different blade sizes from DeRoyal®

- Futura™ Safety Scalpel
  - available in #10, #11 and #15 blade sizes from Fisher Scientific

- Bard-Parker™ Protected Disposable Scalpel
  - available in #10, #11 and #15 blade sizes from Fisher Scientific

Retractable shields:

ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING CONTROLS

PUNCTURE and CUT RESISTANT GLOVES
➢ Protects from needle sticks and cuts; intended to be worn under disposable gloves (nitrile, latex, etc).

- PointGuard® X 6044
  - available in sizes XXS – XL from HexAmor

- Turtleskin Insider Plus Safety Glove Liners
  - available in sizes S – XL from Turtleskin

- Turtleskin CP Neon Gloves
  - available in sizes M, L and XL through Turtleskin

RE-USE of SYRINGES/NEEDLES
➢ If there is no alternative to re-using a needle/syringe for a particular procedure, the below listed alternatives should be considered.

- Convidien Monoject™ Safety Syringes
  - Exclusive transport position eliminates need to re-cap needle
  - available in 3/10, 0.5, 1, 3, 6 and 12ml sizes from Fisher Scientific

- NeedleSafe II
  - mounted to bench, holds cap while syringe is inserted, twist to remove
  - available from Medi-Dose

- Sandel Safety Shield
  - disposable card positions cap at angle and maintains user’s hand away from needle
  - available from Sandel Medical Solutions

Additional Resources:
For more information and extensive lists of safety sharps products- visit: