

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](#)



BD Disposable Luer-Lok™ Syringes

- provides secure connection to prevent needle from detaching mid-injection
- available in wide variety of sizes including 1ml 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](#)



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](#)



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](#)



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](#)

- Retractable shields:



Bard-Parker™ Protected Disposable Scalpel

- available in #10, #11 and #15 blade sizes from [Fisher Scientific](#)

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 3 different puncture/cut levels
- 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.



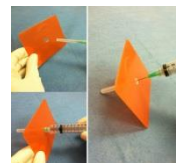
Convidien Monoject™ Safety Syringes

- 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:

1. International Sharps Injury Prevention Society- Safety Product List: www.isips.org/page/safety_product_list
2. University of Virginia Health System- Safety Device List: www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/pub/epinet/new/safetydevice.html