



Sharps Safety

May 2023



Guidelines for safe handling of sharps

- Do not clip or bend needles after use.
- Needles should be recapped using the “one-handed scoop method”.
- Do not carry sharps in your pockets.

Guidelines for proper disposal of sharps

- ALL sharps must be discarded in an approved sharps container. Needles and other sharps are never to be discarded into a red bag, red bag-lined biohazard box, or other waste streams.
- Place approved sharps containers in all lab rooms where sharps are utilized.
- Leave the lid open/off until ready for disposal. Do not close after each use.
- Dispose of sharps container when 2/3 full (approx. 1-2 inches of empty space remaining).
- Tightly close, tape and secure the container before disposal in a receptacle lined with a red biohazard bag. Immediately replace the container with an empty one.

For a list of JHU approved sharps containers, visit:

<https://hpo.johnshopkins.edu/doc/fetch.cfm/FNiEvFXq>

Report all chemical exposures or medical issues from sharps by calling Occupational Health (6-0450) during on hours and security (6-7777) during off hours.