

## Nine Steps to Avoid Needlesticks

1. **Avoid the use of needles where safe and effective alternatives are available.**
2. **Help your employer select and evaluate devices with safety features.**
3. **Use devices with safety features provided by your employer.**
4. **Avoid recapping, bending or removing used needles.**
5. **Plan safe handling and disposal before beginning any procedure using needles.**
6. **Dispose of used needle devices promptly in appropriate sharps disposal containers.**
7. **Report all needlestick and other sharps-related injuries promptly.**
8. **Tell your employer about hazards from needles that you observe in your work environment.**
9. **Participate in bloodborne pathogen training and follow recommended infection prevention practices, including hepatitis B vaccination.**





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