

SHARPS!



'Sharps' are needles or other medical instruments used for healthcare work which could cause an injury by cutting or pricking the skin.

The main risk from a sharps injury is the potential exposure to infections (blood-borne viruses (BBV) such as;

- Hepatitis B (HBV)
- Hepatitis C (HCV)
- Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

NEVER HANDLE DISCARDED NEEDLES AND SYRINGES WITH BARE HANDS!

If discovered, **REPORT THEM TO CONTROL** (Inner - 020 7979 3903 / Outer – 020 7979 3905) who will arrange permanent removal by a professional body or competent person. This is currently Mitie or Ambipar.

Guidance can be found in NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GA22

In the event of contact with a discarded needle encourage the puncture injury to bleed and wash well under cool running water with soap and cover with a dry (sterile) dressing. Seek medical advice as soon as possible, within 48 hours at the nearest local Accident & Emergency department. Remember to report the accident to Infrastructure Fault Control.