

Health and Safety Alert

Disposal of Sharps

1. Date of Incident: April 2020

2. Place of Incident: A laboratory

3. Summary:

A cleaner got pricked on the thigh while taking a bag of trash out of a lab. It was discovered that there was a syringe with needle in the trash. There was no sharps box in the lab at the time.



4. Lessons Learnt and Preventive Measures:

- Eliminate the use of needle devices whenever safe and effective alternatives are available.
- Equip sharps box at labs where sharps like needles are used.
- Dispose of sharps in a sharps box.
- Enhance training on sharps handling and disposal.
- Adopt better housekeeping practices and work procedures.
 For example, have a designated location for syringes,
 needles, sharps box and other instruments in the lab. Install racks and shelves to create more space if necessary.

For more information about sharps injuries and their prevention, please click here or scan the QR code to visit the HSE website.



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