


Needle Recapping:
Are you doing all you can to be safe?




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Learning objectives:

- Identify different methods for safely recapping contaminated needles.
- Determine the safest method for recapping contaminated needles in clinical practice.
- Screen the safety aspects of needle recapping devices.
- Determine safer medical device options for further evaluation in a clinical setting.

2000 Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act



Overview of Research

- Research has shown that accidental sharps injuries can be significantly reduced by: (CDC, 2009)
 - Use of safer medical devices
 - Training and education
 - Staff involvement in the selection and evaluation of safer devices

What are safer medical devices?

- Sharps with engineered injury protection
- Safer needle recapping devices
- Needleless systems
- Dentally-related sharps with engineered sharps injury protection
 - Self-sheathing scalpels
 - Self-sheathing needles
 - Recapping devices

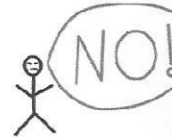
Is new better?

- Challenges associated with evaluating safe needle recapping devices
 - Clinical practice
 - Over long period of time
 - Not 'one size fits all'
 - Reevaluate annually

Mandated Documentation

- The dentist must:
 - "document annually consideration and implementation of appropriate commercially available and effective medical devices designed to eliminate or minimize occupational exposure". (H.R.5178-3, Sec 3.4a)
- Exposure Control Plan
 - Any employee who potentially could come in contact with blood or OPIM
- Sharps Injury Log (< 10 employees)
 - To record all percutaneous injuries

Two-handed needle recapping



Engineered Safety Devices

- 8 available this morning for screening
- **Screen** each one
- Document:
 - Not meet expectations
 - Meet expectations for further **evaluation**
 - Exceed expectations
- Look for new devices at annual association meetings

Goal of this screening

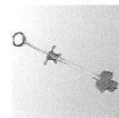
- Explore alternatives to two-handed recapping
- Test different techniques
- Consider one or two techniques to evaluate further in your practice
- Meet needle safety standards

Cotton Pliers



Price range: \$6 - \$50 each

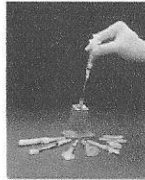
AimSafe Needle Recapper (Septodont)



- Autoclavable
- \$30/pkg of 4

Needle Safe II (ITC)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C16xbYd3J0U>



- Base mounts securely to bracket table
- Autoclavable
- \$22.29 ea.

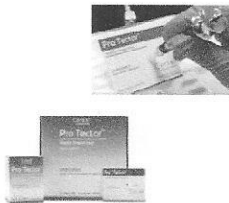
Needle Recapper (Zirc)



- Base held securely to table top
- Removable recapper for disinfection
- Not autoclavable
- Two sizes:
 - Standard
 - Long
- \$25.00 ea.

ProTector Needle Sheath Prop (Certol)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vgYhW6HLEMw>



- Disposable
- Single use
- Reduces possibility of accidental needle stick
- \$15.50/box of 100

Ultrasafe Plus XL syringes (Septodont)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y3Juossq8Bw>



- Single use needle
- Multiple cartridge capability
- Self-aspirating
- No recapping necessary
- Bevel indicator
- Two options:
 - Autoclavable handle (\$12.00)
 - \$41.50/ box of 100 syringes
 - Disposable (\$47.00/box of 100)

Point-Lok Needle Safety Device



- Secures needles when sharps container is not close
- Leak resistant
- Single use
- Fits 16 - 30 gauge needles
- \$65/ bag of 100

Jenker Needle Stick Protector



- Will not tip
- Protects against cross contamination
- Can be sterilized
- Accepts most needles
- \$60.00 ea.

Screening Criteria (Cuny et al., 2000, JADA, 131)

- Is it a better alternative?
- Easy to assemble?
- Easy to break down?
- Easy removal of cartridge?
- Can you change needles?
- Disposes easily in sharps container?

Clinical evaluation of a device

- Determine if one or more of these products may work in clinical practice
- Educate entire staff on use of item(s)
- Evaluate in selected situations
- As a staff, determine if it meets criteria for all

Screening Card

Once you have screened a device have the educator sign the appropriate box.

Exchange the completed form for your CE certificate.

Item	Expectations Not Met	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations
Mitsunigawa Plus A Springs			
Bimballa Teeth Rescaper			
Zetec Needle Stick Protector			
Needle Capper with Microban - Zirc			
NeedleShek			
Potomac Needle Safety Device			
Bio-Tector Needle Sheath Ring			
Combin Rings			

In Advance:

Thank you

Thank you to our colleagues from the
Sacramento Valley Dental Hygienists' Association

Email at: efrancisco@carrington.edu

References

- Cuny E, Fredekind RE, Budenz AW. Dental safety needles' effectiveness: Results of a one-year evaluation. JADA, 2000, 131:1443-8.
- Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. Workbook for designing, implementing, and evaluating a sharps injury prevention program. 2008. Available at <http://www.cdc.gov/sharpsafety/resources.html>