



Needlestick or Sharps Injury — What to Do Now

Wash, report, assess, treat within 2 hours. Pocket card and wall poster on one sheet

SHARPS INJURY OR SPLASH

Act within 2 hours

Step	Do	Time
1 · First aid	Needlestick: let it bleed, wash with soap and running water, do not scrub or squeeze, do not use bleach. Splash to eye or mouth: rinse with water or saline for several minutes.	Immediately
2 · Report	Tell the person in charge. Call _____ (occupational health / duty doctor). Fill in the incident form (Toolkit 8).	Within 30 min
3 · Assess	Source patient known? With consent, test for HBV, HCV, HIV. Your own status: HBV vaccination and antibody level? Type of injury: hollow needle, depth, visible blood?	Within 1 h
4 · Treat	HIV: if the source is positive or unknown and high-risk, start post-exposure prophylaxis within 2 hours (best) and no later than 72 hours; continue 28 days. HBV: if not immune, hepatitis B immunoglobulin within 24 h and vaccine. HCV: no prophylaxis; baseline and follow-up testing.	Within 2 h
5 · Follow up	Baseline blood test; repeat at 6 weeks, 3 months, 6 months. Counselling. Safe practice (barrier protection, no blood donation) until cleared.	6 months
Occupational health: _____ Duty doctor / emergency: _____ Laboratory: _____ PEP kept at: _____		

Prevent the next one. Never recap. Sharps box within arm's reach of every procedure. Safety-engineered devices where affordable. Every injury reported — the count tells you where the boxes are missing.

ASF standards: Standard 3 — occupational safety; Universal Floor — staff safety (means of verification: protocol displayed, PEP available, injuries logged)