

MANAGING A NEEDLESTICK INJURY



Stay calm

- > Allow the wound to bleed freely
- > Immediately wash the area with running water and soap, rinse and pat dry
- > Cover with a band-aid or dry dressing
- > As soon as possible contact your:
 - Supervisor
 - Local doctor
 - Hospital
 - Community Health Centre

For advice on the need for HIV or Hepatitis testing, counselling and possible Hepatitis vaccination.

FURTHER INFORMATION
Needle Clean Up Hotline
1300 13 1340



Government
of South Australia
SA Health



Local
Government
Association
of South
Australia

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND USED SYRINGES



If you feel confident you can follow these steps:

- > Do NOT handle the syringe
- > Do not try to break off, bend or cover the sharp end
- > Find a rigid-walled, puncture-resistant container, ideally with a wide mouth and a secure lid
- > Avoid carrying the syringe – bring the container to the syringe
- > Do not hold the container, place on ground next to syringe
- > Use protective gloves or tongs if available and carefully pick up the syringe away from the sharp end
- > Place the syringe in the container sharp end first
- > If available, securely place lid on the container
- > Wash hands with running water and soap

If you don't feel confident to pick up the syringe, call the Needle Clean Up Hotline
1300 13 1340

Advise children to inform an adult if they find unsafely disposed of syringes

