



School of Nursing

Sharps Injuries

common sharps are needles, razor blades, scalpels, and broken glass

Is it a sharps injury you need to report?

YES if:

It broke through all your layers of skin (i.e. you can see some of your blood)

AND

It had someone else's blood (or other bodily fluid) on it when it injured you.

Always ask your supervisor or instructor if unsure.

Students:

1. Wash the exposed area immediately with soap and water.
2. Report this to the Lab Coordinator, Lab Operations Manager, or faculty as soon as possible.
3. If you know whose blood or other bodily fluid was on the sharp, please note that as well.
4. You will be asked to report to the Health Center for a post-exposure evaluation by the health care provider.

Faculty & Staff:

1. Wash the exposed area immediately with soap and water.
2. Complete a PLU Injury Report with your supervisor, making sure to note it is a sharps injury.
3. Forward the completed PLU Injury Report to Human Resources.
4. You should report to a health care provider for a post-exposure evaluation. This is not required, but is recommended and available at no cost to you.

More information about bloodborne pathogens [exposures](#).

More information about bloodborne pathogens [medical evaluation and follow-up](#).

See the PLU Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan for more information