

Policy

Communities of Care is committed to providing a safe work environment for all of its employees. All employees are expected to adhere to the safer sharps procedures below to decrease the risk of infection and disease transmission to nurse and client.

Training

All field staff will be trained upon hire and annually on the safer sharps procedures, including:

- The use of sharps in the client's home
- The disposal of sharps in the client's home
- What to do if a nurse is stuck by a sharp

This safer sharps training will be reviewed annually by the _____ and Director of Nursing to ensure that it is up-to-date with current best practices and hazards identified in the Communities of Care workplaces.

Use of sharps

At no time and under no circumstances is an employee of Communities of Care allowed to reuse a sharp of any sort. This includes lancets, syringes, and needle tips on reusable, pen-style insulin carriers.

The sharps use at client home _____ has been reviewed by the Director of Nursing.

At this home, the following sharps are in use: _____
for this condition: _____

Disposal of Sharps

At this client home, sharps are disposed of in the following manner:

These procedures were last reviewed on _____
by _____

Any changes to the need for sharps, their use, or their disposal will be reported to the Director of Nursing immediately.

Nurse needlestick injury

Any nurse stuck by a needle must report the injury immediately to Communities of Care. The nurse will be offered blood screening and follow-up care, with every effort made to protect the nurse's confidentiality. This follow-up will be offered at no cost to the employee.