

RANCHO LOS AMIGOS NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTER

Infection Prevention and Control

Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Plan

**SUBJECT: WORKPLACE TRANSMISSION :
ENGINEERING CONTROLS**

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Engineering Controls are controls (e.g. sharps disposal containers, hospital approved safety devices) that isolate or remove the bloodborne pathogen hazard from the work place.

Sharp Injury Prevention

In order to prevent injuries caused by used needles, scalpels, glass and other sharp instruments:

1. Consistently use the hospital-approved safety devices.
2. If disposable, discard "sharps" in nearest sharps container. It is recommended that after use, practitioners collect and dispose of sharps themselves to minimize handling.
3. Collect reusable sharps (thoracentesis needles, etc.) after each procedure and discard in the nearest sharps container. Leaving them in the field increases the risk of exposure to other HCWs.
4. Close tightly and dispose of sharps container when 3/4 full. *DO NOT* attempt to use a full container.
5. Sharps containers are to be closed prior to transport.

Hand Hygiene

Handwashing facilities and alcohol based hand rubs are available in patient rooms, treatment and exam rooms, and clean utility rooms. Environmental Services replenishes soap, paper towels, and alcohol based hand rubs as needed.