

SAFETY ALERT

Campus Incident—Sharps Injury

RISK MANAGEMENT & SAFETY

Event: Sharps Injury

Event Date: May, 2017

Category: Sharps

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Description

A Building Services custodian received a needle stick injury while picking up overflowing trash in a residential hall trash room.



Findings

- There was more trash in the building than usual due to move out. This contributed to trash falling on the floor.
- Individual was wearing nitrile gloves.
- There are no sharps containers in the building's public spaces.

Root Causes

- Syringe was improperly disposed of in the trash.
- No sharps containers available in the residence halls public spaces.

Recommended Actions

- Communicate this incident to all housekeeping personnel.
- Reinforce proper procedures for picking up items from floor with custodial staff.
- Develop and distribute information outlining existing sharps procedures .
- Examine feasibility of emplacing sharps containers in each residential hall.