

COURSE CONTENT OVERVIEW

Needles & Sharps Training

Our Needles and Sharps course teaches you how to use and dispose of sharps safely. It provides you with an understanding of the risks associated with sharps use, as well as what practices you should avoid and the actions you should take in the event of an accident.

This course explains the best practice guidelines for the safe use and disposal of sharps equipment in the healthcare sector. With this knowledge, you'll be able to safely carry out your duties while being able to maintain a high standard of safety and minimise the cases of sharps-related injuries.

Module One: What are Sharps?

The first module of this course defines what sharps are and outlines the risks associated with sharps injuries to both the injured individual and the business. It helps the learner to understand what blood-borne viruses are and explains the emotional, physical and financial impacts that an injury can lead to.

- What are sharps?
- What is a sharps injury?
- Who is at risk of a sharps or needlestick injury?
- Risks associated with sharps injuries
- The facts

Module Two: Sharps and the Law

The second module is designed to help you understand the legal responsibilities that healthcare employers have to protect their workers from sharps-related injuries, the duties placed on employees and the consequences of not complying with the law.

- Health and Safety (Sharp Instruments in Healthcare) Regulations 2013
- Employer and employee responsibilities
- Reasonably practicable
- Further key sharps-related legislation
- Reducing sharps-related injuries
- Risk assessments

Module Three: Safe Use of Needles and Sharps

This module will help you to understand poor practices that result in needlestick injuries and will provide you with best practice guidelines for safe sharps usage.

- When do most sharps injuries occur?
- Best practices for sharps use
- Medical device markings
- Hand hygiene
- Hand hygiene and PPE
- Practices that increase the likelihood of sharps injuries
- Nevers of sharps use
- Safer sharps

Module Four: Safe Disposal of Sharps

The last module details the way you must segregate your sharps waste in accordance with UK guidelines, as well as helping you to identify ways that you can minimise your sharps waste and reduce your environmental impact.

- Waste stream segregation
- Implementing waste segregation systems
- Sharps boxes
- Disposing of sharps
- Disposing of a sharps box
- Regulatory bodies

Aims of the training

By the end of this course, learners will be able to:

- Understand what sharps are in the health and social care industry.
- Explain the risks posed by unsafe practices when using sharps.
- Detail who is at risk of sharps exposure.
- Outline when workers might encounter sharps.
- Demonstrate how to safely handle sharps.
- Demonstrate how to safely dispose of sharps using best practices.
- Outline the legal duties relating to the safe use of sharps.
- Explain what actions to take in the event of a sharps-related accident.