Needlestick Prevention on the Farm

Ouch!

Needlestick injuries are usually minor, but they can be serious.

Most common injuries

- Skin infections
- Allergic reactions
- Deep tissue wounds that require surgery

Did You Know?

- Over 80% of farm workers vaccinating animals have accidentally stuck themselves.
- Vaccines are the most common type of drug involved in needlestick injuries.

Don’t Get Stuck

- Slow down - don’t rush with injections
- Restrain animals properly
  » Get help from coworkers
  » Use the correct equipment and techniques
- Don’t recap needles
- No needles/syringes in your pockets
- Don’t hold caps in your mouth
- Discard bent or dull needles
- Use approved sharps containers

Got Stuck?

- Wash the skin with soap and water immediately
- Report injury to your supervisor
- Call your healthcare provider

Be Careful

Especially with these Products

- Tilmicosin (Micotil®)
- Sedatives (e.g., Xylazine)
- Oil-based products or vaccines
- Brucella abortus Strain RB51 vaccine
- Modified live vaccines (e.g. Erysipelas vaccine)
- Johne’s vaccine
- Hormones - especially if pregnant
- Antibiotics - especially if allergic

More Information:

umash.umn.edu/needlestick
https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/bbp/sharps.html

Funding for this publication was made possible (in part) by the cooperative agreement award U54OH010170 for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The views expressed do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services, nor does mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.