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SAFETY ALERT

No. 19-01

Safe Disposal of Medical Needles

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The Office of Environmental Health & Safety (OEHS) is advising Beaudry Administrative Headquarters staff how to safely dispose of sharps and other medical equipment. Sharps are items capable of cutting, including but not limited to:

- Syringes
- Hypodermic needles/lancets
- Blades

These materials may not be disposed of in the regular trash. If you need to use and dispose of needles or other sharps at Beaudry Administrative Headquarters, you must dispose of the equipment either in:

1. The red “Sharps Container” available on the 14th Floor, Room 110; or
2. Your own personal sharps container (*note: these personal containers cannot be thrown in regular trash cans when full*)



If improperly handled or disposed, sharps have the capability of cutting individuals and if they are contaminated with bodily fluids, they may also pose a bloodborne pathogen exposure hazard. For these reasons, proper disposal, as bio-hazardous waste, is mandatory to protect your health and safety.

Other medical equipment that comes into contact with bodily fluids cannot be disposed of in the regular trash either. Consult OEHS for information pertaining to the safe disposal of this equipment. If you come across sharps or medical equipment that may have been improperly handled or disposed, do not touch it, secure the area and call OEHS for immediate assistance.

For more information on Los Angeles Unified’s Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan, please visit OEHS’ website at <https://bit.ly/2MYeSgA>. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call OEHS at (213) 241-3199. In addition, Employee Health Services may be reached at (213) 241-6326.

DISTRIBUTION: Administrative Headquarters