

# Procedures for safe handling sharps

**Be careful  
with  
blood!**



When the container is  $\frac{3}{4}$  full, dispose of it safely (check with biomedical waste management companies, pharmacies, CLSCs, etc.).



## How to pick up sharp objects

1. Wear gloves.
2. Place a sharps container next to the object.
3. Pick up the object by the blunt end, using tongs reserved for this purpose only.
4. Put the object in the container.
5. To disinfect the tongs, soak them for at least 10 minutes in a solution of 9 parts water to 1 part bleach.
6. Throw the gloves out.
7. Wash your hands with soap and water.

## Never...

- Never move around while holding sharps in your hands.
- Never pick up sharps with bare hands.
- Never try to put the cap back on a needle or razor.
- Never throw out used containers in recycling bins or with the garbage.

