

# Operating Procedure for Use and Disposal of Syringes

Prepared by : Dong Seob Chung, Fatemeh Samaeifar, Atefeh Ghorbani Koltapeh and Mozhgan Sadeghianlemraski

Last updated : March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Updates by Richard Barber: March 6, 2020

Used syringes (especially with needles) present risks of serious injuries, infections and contaminations. These risks apply to both lab users and to individuals dealing with discarded syringes. This document is created in order to provide proper way to use and dispose of syringes.

## Using syringes

Syringes are used in the G2N labs primarily to transfer or dispense controlled quantities of materials. They are used as syringe barrels alone, or capped by a filter, by a needle or by both.

### When you use syringes,

- If you are using needles:
  - Needles are purchased separately from the syringe barrel and are attached as required.
  - A new needle is packaged with a protective cap. When you clip a needle on a syringe, DO NOT remove the protective cap.

- Clip the capped needle onto a syringe and remove a protective cap after complete and safe assembly.
- When you use syringes with needles, you **MUST** be exceedingly careful. The needle can easily penetrate your gloves and injure your hands. Harmful chemicals in syringes may cause serious injuries.
- **BE CAREFUL!** Working inside glove boxes presents special challenges. The gloves are thick, and the glove box operates under positive pressure. This creates resistance, and restricts your accuracy and sensitivity. It is possible to tear or puncture the gloves.
- **Eye protection is required** by every person in the area when you are using syringes outside of a shielded area (such as a glove box). The syringe can 'squirt' materials.

### Disposal of used syringes,

## NEVER DISPOSE OF USED SYRINGES IN THE GARBAGE!

- If you are using syringes with needles.
  - DO NOT recap the needles. There is a risk of personal injury.
  - DO NOT detach needles from syringe bodies. There is a risk of personal injury.
- Discharge any excess chemicals from the syringe into a suitable labelled waste chemical container.
- The G2N lab will provide labelled containers for disposal of used syringes. These containers will be labelled "**SHARPS**".
- Place your used syringes into "SHARPS" bottle.

- You should throw away syringes, syringe needles *without recapping and disassembly*. PTFE or PP filters and needle caps may also be disposed in these containers.
- IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE A SHARPS CONTAINER IS PRESENT IN YOUR AREA OF WORK, IN ORDER TO SAFELY DISPOSE OF USED NEEDLES.
- ALL USERS WILL SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF REMOVING FILLED SHARPS CONTAINERS AND REPLACING THEM WITH AN EMPTY, CORRECTLY LABELLED CONTAINER.



*Picture. A container for sharps*