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Sharps Disposal Container Evaluation

Name:	Occupation/Title:	Dept/Unit:
Today's Date:	Product Name/Number of Times Used:	

INSTRUCTIONS: Product evaluators should inspect and operate containers to be evaluated in side-by-side comparisons. Representative sharps (syringes, IV sets, blades, biopsy needles, pipettes, etc.) should be used to test candidate products. Actual use conditions should be simulated, if possible. Prior to inserting test sharps, attempt to reopen sealed containers and attempt to spill or remove contents from unsealed containers if this is a functional requirement. Evaluation facilitators should provide product manufacturer literature and visual instructions, and should demonstrate proper operation of each of the containers.

Please **circle** the most appropriate answer for each question.

FUNCTIONALITY	agree disagree				
1. Container is stable when placed on horizontal surface and when used as described in the product labeling for use in trays, holders or enclosures.	1	2	3	4	5
2. Container provides for puncture, leak and impact resistance.	1	2	3	4	5
3. Container, labels, warning devices and brackets are durable.	1	2	3	4	5
4. Container is available in various sizes and capacities.	1	2	3	4	5
5. Container restricts access to sharps in the container.	1	2	3	4	5
6. Closure mechanism will not allow needlestick injury.	1	2	3	4	5
7. Closure mechanism provides secure seal.	1	2	3	4	5
8. Design minimizes needle-tip flipback.	1	2	3	4	5
9. Design promotes clinical performance (e.g., will not compromise sterile field or increase injury or infection control hazards).	1	2	3	4	5
10. Design resists easy reopening after sealing for final disposal.	1	2	3	4	5
11. Inlet design defeats waste removal when open.	1	2	3	4	5
12. Inlet design prevents spillage of contents (physical or liquid) while sharps disposal container is in use in the intended upright position.	1	2	3	4	5
13. Containers designed to be reopenable have removable lid design with tight closure for ease of removal with grip safety and comfort.	1	2	3	4	5
14. Mounting brackets are rugged and designed for ease of service.	1	2	3	4	5
ACCESSIBILITY	agree disagree				
15. Container is available in various opening sizes and shapes.	1	2	3	4	5
16. Containers are supplied in sufficient quantity.	1	2	3	4	5
17. Container has an entanglement-free opening/access way.	1	2	3	4	5
18. Container opening/access way and current fill status is visible to user prior to placing sharps into container.	1	2	3	4	5

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Sharps Disposal Container Evaluation (continued)

19. Internal design/molding of container does not impede ease of use.	1	2	3	4	5
20. Handles, if present, are located above full-fill level.	1	2	3	4	5
21. Handles, if present, facilitate safe vertical transport and are located away from opening/access way and potentially soiled surfaces.	1	2	3	4	5
22. Fixed locations place container within arm's reach of point of waste generation.	1	2	3	4	5
23. Fixed locations allow for installation of the container below horizontal vision level.	1	2	3	4	5
24. In high patient/visitor traffic areas, container provides for security against tampering.	1	2	3	4	5
VISIBILITY	agree disagree				
25. Color or warning label implies danger.	1	2	3	4	5
26. A warning indicator (i.e., color or warning label) is readily visible to user prior to user placing sharps into container.	1	2	3	4	5
27. Overfill level is provided and current fill status is readily visible to the user prior to use placing sharps into container.	1	2	3	4	5
28. Sharps disposal container complies with OSHA requirements.	1	2	3	4	5
29. Disposal opening/access way is visible prior to user placing sharps into container.	1	2	3	4	5
30. Security, mounting, aesthetic and safety features do not distort visibility of the opening/access way or fill status indicator.	1	2	3	4	5
ACCOMMODATION	agree disagree				
31. There are no sharp edges in construction or materials.	1	2	3	4	5
32. Safety features do not impede free access.	1	2	3	4	5
33. Container promotes patient and user satisfaction (i.e., aesthetic to extent possible).	1	2	3	4	5
34. Container is simple to operate.	1	2	3	4	5
35. Any emissions from final disposal comply with pollution regulations.	1	2	3	4	5
36. Container is easy to assemble, if required.	1	2	3	4	5
37. Components of containers that require assembly are easy to store prior to use.	1	2	3	4	5
38. Use of container allows one-handed disposal.	1	2	3	4	5
39. Product is available in special designs for environments with specific needs (e.g., labs, emergency rooms, emergency medical services, pediatrics, correctional facilities).	1	2	3	4	5
40. Mounting system is durable, secure, safe, cleanable and, where appropriate, lockable.	1	2	3	4	5
41. Mounting systems allow height adjustments.	1	2	3	4	5
42. Design promotes task confidence.	1	2	3	4	5
43. Product is cost-effective.	1	2	3	4	5

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Sharps Disposal Container Evaluation (continued)

OTHER COMMENTS

What design or performance requirements are missing from the product you evaluated that are really needed to safely or more comfortably conduct your job or sharps-related task?

Additional evaluator concerns and comments:

Developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in conjunction with NIOSH Educational Resource Centers; The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore; the University of Texas, Houston; the University of California, Berkeley; and the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York City.