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

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

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.

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
www.cdc.gov/niosh/stopsticks/sharpsinjuries.html

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