

# Sick of needlesticks?



## Needlestick Injury Facts

### 1. Cost and Frequency

- The cost of the needlestick injuries was as high as **\$591 million** in 2010. (Biomed. Int'l, 2010, 1: 41-49)
- **645,000** estimated needlestick injuries occurred in the US alone in 2004. (Curr Med Res Opin, 2007 Sep; 23(9):2093-105)

### 2. Needlestick injuries in dentistry

About **20 percent** of the needlestick injuries are sustained by dental professionals. (BMC Public Health 2006, 6: 269)

### 3. Who gets injured most?

**Dental assistants** are **ten** times more likely to get needlestick injuries than **dentists**. (BMC Public Health 2006, 6: 269)

### 4. Current situation

CDC and OSHA **banned** recapping and **one hand scoop technique** in **medicine and nursing**, but CDC and OSHA **still recommend** one hand scoop technique to recap needles in **dentistry**.



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