

Patient Education: Safe Removal of Used Lancets from Lancing Devices

Patients may ask you to remove their used lancets from their fingerstick or lancing devices. This can potentially be very dangerous as you may accidentally sustain a sharps injury.	We should never handle the patient's used lancets. As patient educators, we need to teach patient/families to safely handle and dispose of used lancets.
There are a variety of lancing devices on the market. Some are single-use lancets that permanently retract upon puncture. These are the safest. Others have a needle removal ejecting feature. Instruct the patient to eject the used lancet into an approved sharps container or bleach/laundry bottle without touching the lancet. We also teach to never reuse lancets.	Reminder: When performing blood glucose testing on patients, always use gloves and always use the agency's push button safety lancets. After use, dispose of them into a sharp's container.
Teaching patients to safely eject used lancet from lancing device. • Twist off the cap exposing the used lancet never touching the used lancet. • Place the used lancet over a sharp's container or sturdy plastic bleach or laundry detergent bottle. • Slowly push the ejector button and the lancet will pop off into the container.  How to remove the lancet from the lancing device YouTube · Mass General for Children 30 seconds Oct 22, 2019	