

SAFhandle™

REUSABLE SAFETY SCALPELS

Performance + Safety



Razor
med™

Convert your facility

Matches the feel of conventional scalpels.



PROBLEM There are usability problems that deter surgeons from accepting the sheathed or retractable scalpel designs.¹ It's a well known fact that surgeons prefer to use reusable scalpel handles.

SOLUTION The SAFhandle™ reusable safety scalpel has the exact shape, dimensions, weight, grip, balance and feel of a conventional scalpel and does not require the surgeon to change his technique. Available in sizes 3, 4, 3L and 4L.

In recognition of this, AORN in its 2011 document 'Sharps Safety in the OR- Lets Walk the Talk,' AORN endorses, "Use next generation safety scalpel handles that will work with the any standard blade."

No touch blade removal

Complies with
OSHA and CDC
requirements.



PROBLEM Conventional reusable scalpel handles are unsafe because removal of blades is a difficult, hence risky procedure. Blades may sometimes break. Blade remover devices are expensive.

SOLUTION The SAFhandle™ reusable safety scalpel allows "no touch" removal of blade, in compliance with OSHA and CDC requirements.² It dispenses with the need for blade remover devices. The SAFhandle™ reusable safety scalpel requires very little training to use. The handle prevents the possibility of the blade breaking during procedure or disassembly.



Neutral zones or passing trays provide necessary protection in the event the blade of a scalpel is left exposed because the safety mechanisms was not fully activated. The SAFhandle™ reusable safety scalpel, used in conjunction with work practice controls such as hands free transfer trays or neutral zones, offers the optimum balance between employee safety and the delivery of optimal healthcare to patient.³

¹ Increase in Sharps Injuries in Surgical Settings Versus Nonsurgical Settings after Passage of National Needlestick Legislation. Jagger et al. American College of Surgeons. Vol. 210, No. 4, April 2010.

² US OSHA Standard Interpretations: 473. 2005 - 12/22/2005 - Use of passing trays and single-handed scalpel blade remover in a surgical setting.

³ CDC Workbook for Designing, Implementing and Evaluating a Sharps Injury Prevention Program. 2008.

Are you safe?

No shields, buttons, springs, clicks. No surprises.



PROBLEM Safety features of safety scalpels are frequently not activated and blade tips are left exposed, leading to injury during hand to hand passing or after use.³ Shields of safety scalpels are awkward and obstruct use. These features encourage the unsafe practice of hand to hand passing.

SOLUTION The SAFhandle™ reusable safety scalpels can be used with SAFhandle™ safety round tip blades to ensure protection at all times. It is a passive SED and does not require to activate a safety feature. CDC recommends “Do not hand-pass exposed sharps from one person to the other; use a predetermined neutral zone or tray for placing and retrieving used sharps.

Of the 1,700 recorded scalpel injuries, 19% occurred during safety device activation.⁴ Passive SEDs are most effective for NSI prevention reports an EPINET 2010 study.⁵

Which is safer?

CDC, AORN, EPINet recommend round tip scalpel blades.

PROBLEM Regardless of when scalpel injuries take place- they occur due to a sharp tip scalpel blade. Safety scalpels, currently available on the market, cannot prevent injuries during use or when exposed because these scalpels are loaded with a sharp tipped blade. In one study nearly 69.8% of the scalpel injuries occurred during use.⁶ Scalpel blades are more likely than needles to cause deep or otherwise severe injuries due to their sharp tips.

SOLUTION Round tip scalpel blades are recommended as a solution for reducing percutaneous injuries by the the CDC, AORN and EPINET of the University of Virginia's International Healthcare Worker Safety Center.

The SAFhandle™ reusable safety scalpels have a round tip to prevent scalpel injuries when the scalpel is in use or exposed.



⁴ Reducing Scalpel Injuries in the Operating Room. AORN JOURNAL DECEMBER 2009, VOL 90, NO 6.

⁵ International Healthcare Worker Safety Center, Univ. of Virginia. Efficacy of Safety-Engineered Sharp Medical Devices Studies from 2001-2010.

⁶ Increase in Sharps Injuries in Surgical Settings Versus Nonsurgical Settings after Passage of National Needlestick Legislation. Jagger et al. American College of Surgeons. Vol. 210, No. 4, April 2010

Diamantine™ SAFhandle™ High Performance Safety Blades are manufactured to precise angles; the cutting edge is coated with a diamond like material which is biocompatible and highly corrosion resistant, using an environmentally friendly process.

This specification enhances initial sharpness, strength and sharpness retention. Laboratory testing shows significant performance improvements over the best conventional scalpel blades.

Combined with the SAFhandle™ safety reusable scalpel handle, these high performance blades will provide optimum performance and safety.

DIAMANTINE™
SAFhandle™



Round tip scalpel blades provide protection during use.

Diamantine™ coated edge. Retains sharpness longer.

Performance and safety for the entire team

For the patients

1. Reducing percutaneous injuries in surgery reduces patients' risk of exposure to healthcare workers blood.
2. SAFhandle™ reusable safety scalpels provide the feel crucial to properly execute surgical procedures.
3. Allows surgeons and staff to focus on the patient rather than the tools.
4. Reduced risk of retained blades. Handle design prevents the blade breaking or disassembling during procedure.
5. Safe for deep tissue incisions.

For the surgeon

1. SAFhandle™ reusable safety scalpels weigh and feel like conventional handles. Require no change in technique.
2. SAFhandle™ safety scalpel blades exceed the cutting performance of conventional scalpels and provides protection too.
3. The handle strengthens the blade and enhances cutting action.
4. Provides clear view of the surgical site.
5. Suitable and safe for Arthroscopy.
6. Can be easily used in either hand.

For the nursing staff

1. SAFhandle™ safety blade with round tip protects against percutaneous needlestick injuries.
2. Innovative fit and lock system is safe and easy to load the blade. Protects against sudden movements and collisions.
3. No change in aseptic technique.
4. No touch technique for removal of blade.
5. Blade remover units not required.
6. Requires very little training.
7. Product packaging allows ease of transfer to sterile field without jeopardising sterility.

For the risk and materials manager

1. No increase in volume of sharps waste and in inventory space.
2. No change in sharps disposal containers, counting trays, methods and equipment for cleaning handles and handling methods.
3. Durable German stainless steel handle with extended life.
4. Provides an easy and cost effective way to comply with OSHA standards and federal regulations.
5. Compatible with most makes of conventional scalpel blades.
6. A complete range of blades and handles available.