

# BladeNeedleSYSTEM

Blade Remover | Needle Counter



A *simply safer* way of removing and containing blades and suture needles in operating rooms.

Minimize the risk of unacceptable sharps injuries by safe containment of used needles, as well as, removing, containing, and disposing of used scalpel blades with an easy-to-use single-handed scalpel blade remover.



*The essentials of team safety*

# A simply safer way to stay focused on your job.

Clicksmart BladeNeedleSYSTEM provides a *simply safer* way to remove and contain used scalpel blades and suture needles in sterile operating environments. BladeNeedleSYSTEM replaces the two-handed built-in blade remover of the existing needle counters with the world-first single-handed scalpel blade remover to prevent the dangerous injuries commonly caused by removing blades with fingers, forceps or re-sheathing techniques.

## Continue to use the best tool for your job.



Surgeons prefer the balance, weight and ergonomics of a reusable metal scalpel but removing used blades manually in operating rooms compromises staff safety.

Built-in blade removers in existing needle counters are not the answer as they require two-handed activation and frequently are non-functional. BladeNeedleSYSTEM provides the solution by integrating the easy-to-use, single-handed blade remover with the needle counter.

## Make compliance a practical reality.

Research shows that when a single-handed scalpel blade remover is combined with a hands free passing technique (HFPT) it is up to five times safer than a safety scalpel.<sup>4</sup>

BladeNeedleSYSTEM meets these essential safety standards:

- OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Standard "1910.1030"
- Australian/New Zealand Standard "AS/NZS 3825:1998"
- European Directive "2010/32/EU"
- CE compliant

This essential safety solution makes compliance a practical reality and dramatically reduces injury costs. Healthcare workers in the United States alone report between 600,000 and 1 million sharps injuries per year. Many more go unreported.<sup>5</sup> Occupational health and safety regulations worldwide are responding.

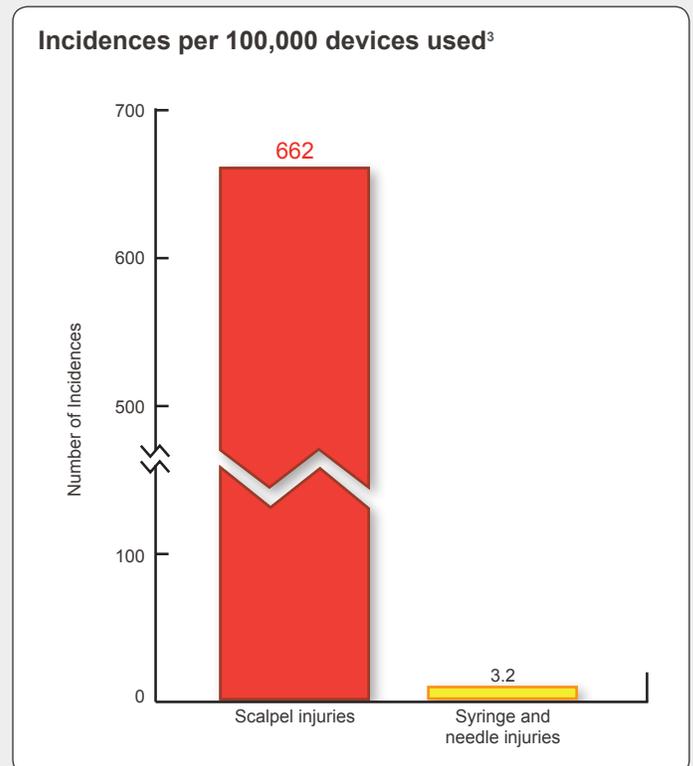
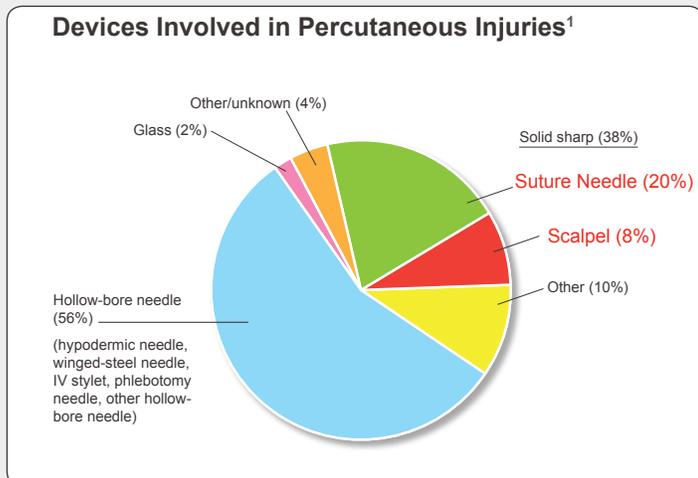
BladeNeedleSYSTEM ensures optimal safety based on speed and convenience for the end-user, ergonomic simplicity and passive, automatic and single-handed safety principles.

## Minimise risks of injury and infection

Sharps injuries are a serious occupational hazard in healthcare settings. While needle stick injuries are the most common type of injuries, scalpel cuts are more severe. Use of a needle counter for safe containment of needles, as well as, the single-handed technique for removing blades minimizes the risk of injury in sterile fields.

- 8-11% of sharps injuries are caused by scalpel blades.<sup>1,2</sup>
- There are 662 scalpel injuries per 100,000 scalpel blades used, and 3.2 syringe and loose needle incidences per 100,000 disposable syringes and loose needles used.<sup>3</sup>

The alarmingly common scalpel injuries cause pain, emotional distress, potentially fatal infections, and damage to digital nerves, arteries or tendons requiring microsurgery and extensive rehabilitation. BladeNeedleSYSTEM dramatically reduces the risk of scalpel blade injuries in operating theatres.



1. "CDC (Centre for Disease Control and Prevention) Sharps Injury Prevention Workbook 2008." from <http://www.cdc.gov/SharpsSafety/index.html>  
 2. Jagger, J., M. Bentley, et al. (1998) "A study of patterns and prevention of blood exposures in OR personnel." AORN Journal 67(5): 979-81, 983-4, 986-7 passim.  
 3. Eisenstein, H. C. and D. A. Smith (1992). "Epidemiology of reported sharps injuries in a tertiary care hospital." J Hosp Infect 20(4): 271-80.  
 4. Fuentes et al. (2008) "Scalpel Safety": Modeling the effectiveness of different safety devices' ability to reduce scalpel blade injuries." The International Journal of Risk & Safety in Medicine 20(1-2):83-89.  
 5. Matson, K. (2000) "States begin passing sharps and needle-stick legislation to protect health care workers." AORN Journal 72(4): 699-703, 705-7.

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## Remove and contain blades safely with one hand ONLY

Contaminated scalpels and needles lying around on the mayo table increase the risk of exposure to sharps injury and life-threatening infection. Use of a needle counter for safe containment of needles can minimize the risk of needlestick injury in the sterile field. However, built-in blade removers in existing needle counters are not safe, as they require two-handed activation and frequently malfunction. The sterile BladeNeedleSYSTEM enables single-handed removal and containment of used scalpel blades for safe disposal immediately after use, reducing the risk of scalpel injuries.

## Improve staff and patient safety

With the single-use scalpel blade removing cartridge in the BladeNeedleSYSTEM, you can now change blades in the sterile field. Simply 'push and click' to remove and contain used scalpel blades using one hand only.

- **IMPROVE PATIENT SAFETY** by enabling surgeons to use ergonomic precision metal scalpel handles.
- **IMPROVE STAFF SAFETY** by ensuring the used scalpel blades are removed with a safe single-handed technique, and needles are safely contained until final disposal.

## OSHA updates

OSHA in an update on December 22nd, 2005 stated:<sup>6</sup>

"... if the use of a particular engineering control, in this case a safety scalpel, compromises patient safety, its use would not be considered feasible... blade removal must be accomplished through the use of a mechanical device or one handed technique... The use of a single-handed scalpel blade remover meets these criteria..."

## Ensure team safety and satisfaction

According to EPINet data in 2001, percutaneous injury rates show that nurses are most at risk (43.6%) of sustaining sharps injuries.<sup>7</sup>

With BladeNeedleSYSTEM, surgeons use their preferred traditional metal scalpel handle while nurses and surgical technologists are protected.

## Cost effective

BladeNeedleSYSTEM is the first single-handed scalpel blade remover that works properly in a needle counter. With BladeNeedleSYSTEM, you pay for the single-handed blade remover and get the needle counter for less than half of the usual price. In addition, you protect yourself from sharps injuries. An uncomplicated injury costs \$2000-5000, and a complicated one in excess of \$100,000.

## SINGLE-HANDED

Scalpel Blade Remover:  
Safe & Easy to use



COMPLIANT  
with safety  
regulations

## TWO-HANDED

Scalpel Blade Remover:  
Unsafe & Difficult to use



NOT  
COMPLIANT  
with safety  
regulations

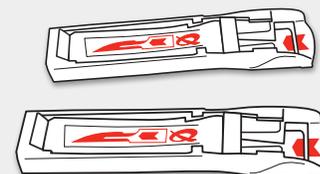
## Sterile device

BladeNeedleSYSTEM can be included in sterile packs (e.g. custom kits or theatre packs), ensuring that the blade remover is immediately available for use when required. BladeNeedleSYSTEM can be sterilised by gamma radiation.

## Counting of blades and needles

BladeNeedleSYSTEM has been specifically designed to enable easy and accurate counting of blades and needles after use in theatre.

*Fits seamlessly into  
your standard operating  
room procedures*



6. OSHA Standard Interpretations. Standard Number: 1910.1030; 1910.1030(c)(1)(iv); 1910.1030(d)(2). \*12/22/2005 - Use of passing trays and single-handed scalpel blade remover in a surgical setting."

7. Uniform Needlestick and Sharp-Object Injury Report U.S. EPINet Network, 2001, 58 Healthcare facilities.

# Specifications

Product code	QBNS202S	
GMDN code	46236	
Blade capacity	2 cartridges in the unit - each cartridge removes 1 (one) blade.	
Compatible Blades & Handles*	Handles: #3, 3L, 4, 4L, 5, 7, 9, baron, cylindrical.	
	Blades: #10, 10a, 11, 11P, 12, 14, 15, 15a, 15c, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 22a, 23, 24, 25, 25a, 27, 36, 6, 9, E11, Sabre D/15.	
Incompatible Blades & Handles	Beaver handle, Disposable handles	
Size (per unit)	Closed: Length 11.7cm Width 6.6cm Height 3.9cm	Open**: Length 11.7cm Width 12.7cm Height 8.7cm
	Weight (per unit) 51g	

Material	Needle counter box: High Impact Polystyrene Cartridges: Borealis Polypropylene (PP)
Latex	No
DEHP	No
Sterile	Yes
Sterilisation method	Gamma radiation
Re-usable	No, each cartridge removes 1 (one) blade before disposal.
Disposal method	After the blade and needle counts have been performed, the needle counter and cartridges are disposed of separately as medical wastes in a sharps container.
Regulatory approvals	Australia - Listed under TGA ARTG NO: 208058
	USA - FDA listed
	Europe - Class I Sterile medical device under Council Directive 93/42/EEC and CE marked

\* Most brands will work with Qlicksmart BladeNeedlesSYSTEM  
\*\* Open box with cartridge standing in the holder

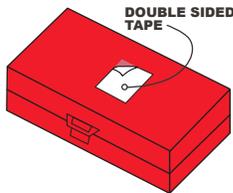
## How To Use

## BladeNeedleSYSTEM

### Blade Remover | Needle Counter

### PREPARE USING TWO HANDS:

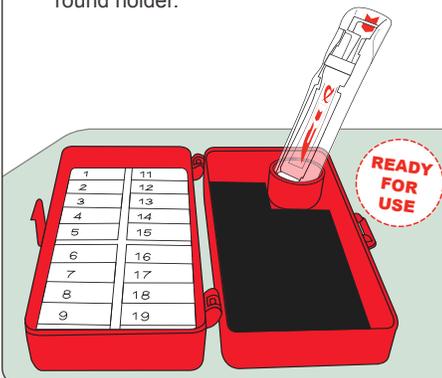
1. Peel the double sided tapes, open and stick the BladeNeedlesSYSTEM down.



DOUBLE SIDED TAPE



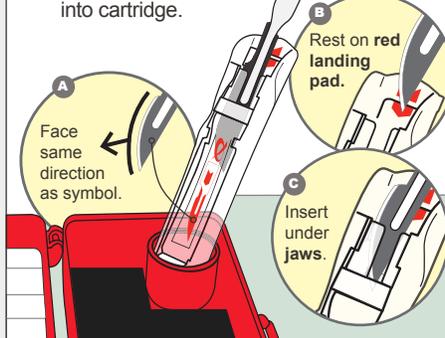
2. To remove a used scalpel blade, take a cartridge and place it inside the round holder.



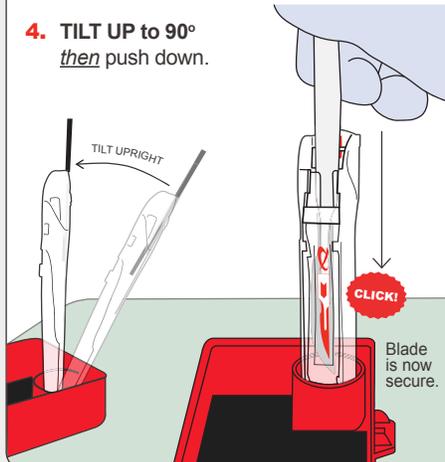
READY FOR USE

### ACTIVATE SINGLE HANDED:

3. Using one hand, slide tip of scalpel into cartridge.

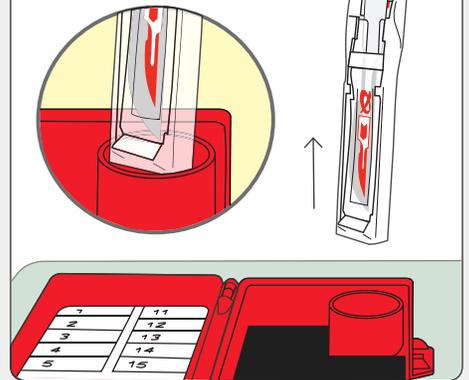


4. TILT UP to 90° then push down.



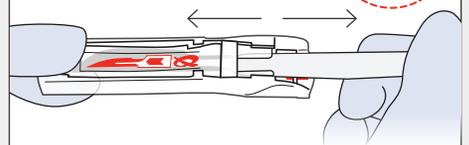
CLICK!  
Blade is now secure.

5. Remove cartridge from the round holder.

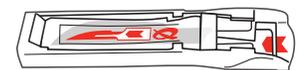


### SAFE TO USE TWO HANDS:

6. Pull out scalpel handle.



7. Ready for counting and later disposal in sharps bin.



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