



## Guidelines to Follow

### Soft-bristled Toothbrush

#### Feather Toothbrush

Always using a soft-bristled toothbrush decreases the risk for traumatic injury to the gums. Patients should be educated that flossing is contraindicated.

### Electric Razor

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Electric razors are used because their tendency for skin lacerations is exponentially lower.

### Limit Needle Sticks

#### Sharps Container with Needle Limit

Limiting the number of needle sticks in patients decreases the number of sites that could bleed and also the number of sites that require monitoring. Intramuscular injections should be avoided if possible.

### Smaller Needle Size

#### Smaller Needle

When needle sticks cannot be avoided, use the higher gauge needle possible, as higher gauge needles have smaller lengths and diameters than small gauge needles. Apply pressure and or ice to the area after any injection.