

# EPINet Report for Needlestick and Sharp Object Injuries

Reporting period: Jan 01, 2012 to Dec 31, 2012

Total rate: 23.61 per 100 ADC

Facility where incident occurred: ALL

Teaching rate: 27.8 per 100 ADC

Type of facility where occurred: ALL

Non-teaching rate: 15.81 per 100 ADC

3. Dept where incident occurred: ALL

ADC=Average Daily Census

4. Home/Employing dept: ALL

5. Job category: ALL

6. Where the injury occurred: ALL

7. Injured worker was original user: ALL

9. Was it contaminated? ALL

10. Original purpose of sharp item: ALL

11. How the injury occurred: ALL

12. Type of device: ALL

Device: ALL

17. Dominant hand of HCW: ALL

13. Was item a "safety design"? ALL

## 5. What is the job category of the injured worker?

1 Doctor (attending.staff) specialty	92	15.4%
2 Doctor (intern/resident/fellow) specialty	79	13.2%
3 Medical student	6	1.0%
4 Nurse	216	36.2%
5 Nursing student	3	0.5%
6 Respiratory therapist	5	0.8%
7 Surgery attendant	41	6.9%
8 Other attendant	7	1.2%
9 Phlebotomist/ Venipuncture/ IV team	21	3.5%
10 Clinical laboratory worker	1	0.2%
11 Technologist (non lab)	22	3.7%
14 Housekeeper	9	1.5%
15 Other, describe	80	13.4%
16 Paramedic	3	0.5%
17 Other student	6	1.0%
18 C.N.A./H.H.A.	5	0.8%
20 Security	1	0.2%

Total records: 597

## 6. Where did the injury occur?

1 Patient room/ward	146	24.6%
2 Outside patient room	11	1.9%
3 Emergency department	38	6.4%
4 Intensive/Critical care unit	35	5.9%
5 Operating room/Recovery	233	39.3%
6 Outpatient clinic/Office	33	5.6%
8 Venipuncture center	5	0.8%
10 Procedure room	22	3.7%
11 Clinical laboratories	3	0.5%

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12 Autopsy/Pathology	1	0.2%
13 Service/Utility area	6	1.0%
14 Other, describe	43	7.3%
16 Labor and delivery room	13	2.2%
17 Home-care	4	0.7%

Total records: 593

## 7. Was the source patient identifiable?

1 Yes	561	94.6%
2 No	24	4.0%
3 Unknown	7	1.2%
4 N/A	1	0.2%

Total records: 593

## 8. Was the injured worker the original user of the sharp item?

1 Yes	397	68.1%
2 No	173	29.7%
3 Unknown	5	0.9%
4 N/A	8	1.4%

Total records: 583

## 9. The sharp item was:

1 Contaminated	521	89.1%
2 Uncontaminated	28	4.8%
3 Unknown	36	6.2%

Total records: 585

## 10. For what purpose was the sharp item originally used?

1 Unknown/not applicable	14	2.4%
2 Injection, intramuscular/subcutaneous	162	27.6%
3 Heparin or saline flush	4	0.7%
4 Other injection into IV injection site or port	5	0.9%
6 To start IV or setup heparin lock	26	4.4%
7 To draw a venous blood sample	45	7.7%
8 To draw an arterial blood sample	9	1.5%
9 To obtain a body fluid or tissue sample	9	1.5%
10 Fingerstick/heel stick	7	1.2%
11 Suturing	150	25.6%
12 Cutting	51	8.7%
13 Electrocautery	5	0.9%
15 Other, describe	85	14.5%
16 To place an arterial/central line	6	1.0%
17 Drilling	9	1.5%

Total records: 587

## 11. Did the injury occur?

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1 Before use of item	13	2.2%
2 During use of item	265	45.1%
3 Between steps of a multi-step procedure	67	11.4%
4 Disassembling device or equipment	22	3.7%
5 In preparation for reuse of reusable instruments	8	1.4%
6 While recapping a used needle	13	2.2%
7 Withdrawing a needle from rubber or other resistance	9	1.5%
8 Other after use, before disposal	63	10.7%
9 From item left on or near disposal container	3	0.5%
10 While putting the item into the disposal container	20	3.4%
11 After disposal, stuck by item protruding from disposal container	7	1.2%
13 After disposal, item protruding from trash bag or inapp container	12	2.0%
14 Other, describe	64	10.9%
15 Restraining patient	2	0.3%
16 Device left on floor, table, bed or other inappropriate place	20	3.4%

Total records: 588

## 12. Which device caused the injury?

1 Disposable syringe	183	35.7%
2 Pre-filled cartridge syringe	13	2.5%
3 Blood gas syringe (ABG)	5	1.0%
4 Syringe, other type	3	0.6%
5 Needle on IV line	3	0.6%
6 Winged steel needle	7	1.4%
7 IV catheter stylet	6	1.2%
8 Vacuum tube blood collection holder/needle	4	0.8%
9 Spinal or epidural needle	1	0.2%
10 Unattached hypodermic needle	2	0.4%
11 Arterial catheter introducer needle	2	0.4%
12 Central line catheter introducer needle	3	0.6%
28 Needle, not sure what kind	7	1.4%
29 Other needle, describe	38	7.4%
30 Lancet	3	0.6%
31 Suture needle	114	22.2%
32 Scalpel, reusable	17	3.3%
33 Razor	1	0.2%
35 Scissors	4	0.8%
36 Electro-cautery device	1	0.2%
37 Bone cutter	2	0.4%
39 Towel clip	4	0.8%
40 Microtome blade	10	1.9%
41 Trocar	1	0.2%
45 Scalpel, disposable	11	2.1%
46 Retractors, skin/bone hooks	6	1.2%
47 Staples/Steel sutures	1	0.2%
48 Wire (suture, fixation, guide wire)	10	1.9%

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49 Pin (fixation, guide pin)	8	1.6%
50 Drill bit/Bur	2	0.4%
51 Pickups/Forceps/Hemostats/Clamps	5	1.0%
58 Sharp item, not sure what kind	2	0.4%
59 Other sharp item, describe	31	6.0%
60 Medication ampule	1	0.2%
78 Glass item, not sure what kind	1	0.2%
79 Other glass item, describe	1	0.2%

Total records: 513

## 13. If the item causing the injury was a needle or sharp medical device, was it a "safety design" with a shielded, recessed, retractable, or blunted needle or blade?

1 Yes	201	36.7%
2 No	330	60.2%
3 Unknown	17	3.1%

Total records: 548

### 13a. If yes, was safety mechanism activated?

1 Yes, fully	19	10.7%
2 Yes, partially	42	23.6%
3 No	117	65.7%

Total records: 178

### 13b. If yes, did the injury happen?

1 Before activation	81	50.3%
2 During activation	57	35.4%
3 After activation	23	14.3%

Total records: 161

## 14. Location of the injury:

Arm	14	2.4%
Foot	1	0.2%
Front	1	0.2%
Hand, left	375	64.0%
Hand, right	192	32.8%
Leg	3	0.5%

Total records: 586

## 15. Was the injury?

1 Superficial-little or no bleeding	395	68.8%
2 Moderate-skin punctured, some bleeding	171	29.8%
3 Severe-deep stick/cut, profuse bleeding	8	1.4%

Total records: 574

## 16. If injury was to the hand, did the sharp item penetrate?

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1	Single pair of gloves	334	58.8%
2	Double pair of gloves	170	29.9%
3	No gloves	64	11.3%
Total records: 568			

## 17. Dominant hand of the injured worker:

1	Right-handed	527	92.5%
2	Left-handed	43	7.5%
Total records: 570			

## 19. For injured healthcare worker: If the sharp had no integral safety feature, do you have an opinion that such a feature could have prevented the injury?

1	Yes	54	10.8%
2	No	397	79.7%
3	Unknown	47	9.4%
Total records: 498			

## 20. For injured healthcare worker: Do you have an opinion that any other engineering control, administrative or work practice could have prevented the injury?

1	Yes	96	19.6%
2	No	360	73.6%
3	Unknown	33	6.7%
Total records: 489			