

EPINet Report for Needlestick and Sharp Object Injuries

Reporting period: Jan 01 to Dec 31, 2020

Facility where incident occurred: ALL
Type of facility where occurred: ALL

Home/Employing department: ALL
Dept where incident occurred: ALL

4. Job category: ALL

5. Where the injury occurred: ALL

6. Was the source patient identifiable?: ALL

7. Injured worker was original user: ALL

8. Was it contaminated? ALL

8a. Was there blood visible? ALL

9. Original purpose of sharp item: ALL

10. When the injury occurred: ALL

11. Type of device: ALL

Device: ALL

12. Was item a "safety design"? ALL

12c. Type of safety mechanism: ALL

13. Did the device have needles on both ends? ALL

14. Did the incident result in an exposure to
a hazardous drug? ALL

16. Depth of injury: ALL

17. If injury to hand, did the sharp item
penetrate? ALL

18. Dominant hand of HCW: ALL

19. Employment status: ALL

Total Records Read: 1331

Total rate 26.6 per 100 ADC

Teaching rate: 28.0 per 100 ADC

Non-teaching rate: 22.9 per 100 ADC

ADC is Average Daily Census

41 hospitals

4. What is the job category of the injured worker?

1 Doctor (attending.staff) specialty	209	15.8%
2 Doctor (intern/resident/fellow) specialty	235	17.8%
3 Medical student	13	1.0%
4 Nurse	479	36.3%
5 Nursing student	6	0.5%
6 Respiratory therapist	14	1.1%
7 Surgery attendant	124	9.4%
8 Other attendant	49	3.7%
9 Phlebotomist/ Venipuncture	41	3.1%
10 Clinical laboratory worker	15	1.1%
11 Technologist (non lab)	48	3.6%
12 Dentist	2	0.2%
14 EVS/Housekeeper	10	0.8%
15 Other, describe	43	3.3%
16 EMT/Paramedic/ First Responder	4	0.3%
18 C.N.A./H.H.A.	23	1.7%
20 Security	1	0.1%
22 Physician's assistant	3	0.2%

Total records: 1,319



5. Where did the injury occur?

1 Patient room/ward	345	26.3%
3 Emergency department	108	8.2%
4 Intensive/Critical care unit	42	3.2%
5 Operating room/Recovery	573	43.7%
6 Outpatient clinic/Office	102	7.8%
10 Procedure room	55	4.2%
11 Clinical laboratories	22	1.7%
12 Autopsy/Pathology	2	0.2%
13 Service/Utility area	21	1.6%
14 Other, describe	22	1.7%
16 Labor and delivery room	18	1.4%
17 Home-care	2	0.2%

Total records: 1,312

6. Was the source patient identifiable?

1 Yes	1,202	90.6%
2 No	31	2.3%
3 Unknown	49	3.7%
4 N/A	44	3.3%

Total records: 1,326

7. Was the injured worker the original user of the sharp item?

1 Yes	502	73.1%
2 No	142	20.7%
3 Unknown	20	2.9%
4 N/A	23	3.3%

Total records: 687

8. The sharp item was:

1 Contaminated	1,188	90.3%
2 Uncontaminated	62	4.7%
3 Unknown	65	4.9%

Total records: 1,315

8a. Was blood visible on the device?

1 Yes	809	69.7%
2 No	118	10.2%
3 Unknown	233	20.1%

Total records: 1,160

9. For what purpose was the sharp item originally used?

1 Unknown/not applicable	11	1.6%
2 Injection, intramuscular/subcutaneous	178	25.9%
3 Heparin or saline flush	1	0.1%
4 Other injection into IV injection site or port	7	1.0%
6 To start IV or setup heparin lock	16	2.3%
7 To draw a venous blood sample	54	7.9%
8 To draw an arterial blood sample	8	1.2%
9 To obtain a body fluid or tissue sample	11	1.6%
10 Fingertick/heel stick	11	1.6%



11 Suturing	191	27.8%
12 Cutting	44	6.4%
13 Electrocautery	8	1.2%
14 To contain a specimen or pharmaceutical	2	0.3%
15 Other, describe	127	18.5%
16 To place an arterial/central line	11	1.6%
17 Drilling	6	0.9%
Total records:	686	

10. When did the injury occur?

1 Before use of item	20	3.0%
2 During use of item	349	52.9%
3 Between steps of a multi-step procedure	63	9.5%
4 After use, while disassembling device or equipment	21	3.2%
5 In preparation for reuse of reusable instruments	7	1.1%
6 After use, while recapping a used needle	20	3.0%
7 While withdrawing a needle from rubber or other resistance	4	0.6%
8 Other after use, before disposal	81	12.3%
9 After use, from item left on or near disposal container	1	0.2%
10 During disposal, while putting the item into the disposal container	21	3.2%
11 During disposal, stuck by item protruding from disposal container	6	0.9%
13 After disposal, item protruding from trash bag or inapp container	6	0.9%
14 Other, describe	45	6.8%
15 While restraining patient	1	0.2%
16 After use, device left on floor, table, bed or other inappropriate	15	2.3%
Total records:	660	

11. Which device caused the injury?

1 Disposable syringe	217	16.7%
2 Pre-filled cartridge syringe	26	2.0%
3 Blood gas syringe (ABG)	13	1.0%
4 Syringe, other type	30	2.3%
5 Needle on IV line	1	0.1%
6 Winged steel needle	46	3.5%
7 IV catheter stylet	27	2.1%
8 Vacuum tube blood collection holder/needle	31	2.4%
9 Spinal or epidural needle	5	0.4%
10 Unattached hypodermic needle	4	0.3%
11 Arterial catheter introducer needle	8	0.6%
12 Central line catheter introducer needle	14	1.1%
14 Other vascular catheter needle	11	0.8%
16 Huber-type needle	36	2.8%
17 Pen Needle	4	0.3%
28 Needle, not sure what kind	106	8.1%
29 Other needle, describe	105	8.1%
30 Lancet	16	1.2%
31 Suture needle	308	23.7%
32 Scalpel, reusable	11	0.8%
33 Razor	3	0.2%
35 Scissors	13	1.0%
36 Electro-cautery device	15	1.2%
37 Bone cutter	5	0.4%



38 Bone chip	5	0.4%
39 Towel clip	6	0.5%
40 Microtome blade	1	0.1%
41 Trocar	3	0.2%
42 Vacuum tube (plastic)	1	0.1%
43 Specimen/Test tube (plastic)	2	0.2%
45 Scalpel, disposable	41	3.2%
46 Retractors, skin/bone hooks	20	1.5%
47 Staples/Steel sutures	7	0.5%
48 Wire (suture, fixation, guide wire)	33	2.5%
49 Pin (fixation, guide pin)	7	0.5%
50 Drill bit/Bur	9	0.7%
51 Pickups/Forceps/Hemostats/Clamps	9	0.7%
58 Sharp item, not sure what kind	11	0.8%
59 Other sharp item, describe	71	5.5%
60 Medication ampule	3	0.2%
61 Medication vial	1	0.1%
65 Specimen/Test tube, glass	1	0.1%
67 Glass slide	2	0.2%
68 Automobile glass/windshield	8	0.6%
78 Glass item, not sure what kind	1	0.1%
79 Other glass item, describe	4	0.3%

Total records: 1,301

11a. Type of disposable needle used:

1 Insulin	50	24.3%
2 Tuberculin	19	9.2%
3 24/25G needle	39	18.9%
4 23G needle	19	9.2%
5 22G needle	9	4.4%
6 21G needle	4	1.9%
7 20G needle	6	2.9%
8 Other	60	29.1%

Total records: 206

12. 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	185	36.9%
2 No	280	55.9%
3 Unknown	36	7.2%

Total records: 501

12a. If yes, was safety mechanism activated?

1 Yes, fully	8	4.7%
2 Yes, partially	48	28.1%
3 No	114	66.7%
4 Unknown	1	0.6%

Total records: 171

12b. If yes, did the injury happen?

1 Before activation	101	53.7%
2 During activation	60	31.9%



3 After activation	26	13.8%
4 Unknown	1	0.5%
Total records: 188		

13. Did the device have needles at both

2 No	1	100.0%
Total records: 1		

15. Location of the injury:

1 Hand, right	214	33.3%
15 Hand, left	405	63.0%
30 Other	24	3.7%
Total records: 643		

16. Was the injury?

1 Superficial-little or no bleeding	430	65.0%
2 Moderate-skin punctured, some bleeding	226	34.1%
3 Severe-deep stick/cut, profuse bleeding	6	0.9%
Total records: 662		

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

1 Single pair of gloves	387	61.7%
2 Double pair of gloves	226	36.0%
3 No gloves	14	2.2%
Total records: 627		

18. Dominant hand of the injured worker:

1 Right-handed	521	90.8%
2 Left-handed	53	9.2%
Total records: 574		

19. Employment status

1 Employee	274	94.5%
3 Student	14	4.8%
6 Other	2	0.7%
Total records: 290		