

EPINet Report for Needlestick and Sharp Object Injuries



Reporting period: Jan 01, 2021 to Dec 31, 2021

Total Records Read: 1684

Type of facility where occurred: ALL

3. Home/Employing department: ALL

3a. Dept where incident occurred: ALL

4. Job category: ALL

5. Where the injury occurred: ALL

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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

Was prophylaxis provided? ALL

Total rate 31.0 per 100 ADC

Teaching rate: 34.0 per 100 ADC

Non-teaching rate: 23.3 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	244	14.7%
2 Doctor (intern/resident/fellow) specialty	269	16.2%
3 Medical student	31	1.9%
4 Nurse	654	39.4%
5 Nursing student	14	0.8%
6 Respiratory therapist	21	1.3%
7 Surgery attendant	146	8.8%
8 Other attendant	54	3.3%
9 Phlebotomist/ Venipuncture	48	2.9%
10 Clinical laboratory worker	13	0.8%
11 Technologist (non lab)	77	4.6%
12 Dentist	3	0.2%
13 Dental hygienist	3	0.2%
14 EVS/Housekeeper	17	1.0%
15 Other, describe	35	2.1%
16 EMT/Paramedic/ First Responder	2	0.1%
17 Other student	1	0.1%
18 C.N.A./H.H.A.	26	1.6%
20 Security	2	0.1%

Total records: 1,660

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5. Where did the injury occur?

1 Patient room/ward	496	30.1%
2 Outside patient room	4	0.2%
3 Emergency department	132	8.0%
4 Intensive/Critical care unit	41	2.5%
5 Operating room/Recovery	616	37.4%
6 Outpatient clinic/Office	83	5.0%
9 Dialysis facility	1	0.1%
10 Procedure room	64	3.9%
11 Clinical laboratories	32	1.9%
12 Autopsy/Pathology	10	0.6%
13 Service/Utility area	29	1.8%
14 Other, describe	114	6.9%
16 Labor and delivery room	16	1.0%
17 Home-care	9	0.5%

Total records: 1,647

6. Was the source patient identifiable?

1 Yes	1,535	91.7%
2 No	37	2.2%
3 Unknown	51	3.0%
4 N/A	51	3.0%

Total records: 1,674

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

1 Yes	787	74.5%
2 No	228	21.6%
3 Unknown	15	1.4%
4 N/A	26	2.5%

Total records: 1,056

8. The sharp item was:

1 Contaminated	1,484	89.5%
2 Uncontaminated	83	5.0%
3 Unknown	91	5.5%

Total records: 1,658

8a. Was blood visible on the device?

1 Yes	1,014	69.5%
2 No	128	8.8%
3 Unknown	317	21.7%

Total records: 1,459

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

1 Unknown/not applicable	21	2.0%
2 Injection, intramuscular/subcutaneous	307	29.2%
3 Heparin or saline flush	5	0.5%
4 Other injection into IV injection site or port	12	1.1%
5 To connect IV line	2	0.2%
6 To start IV or setup heparin lock	28	2.7%
7 To draw a venous blood sample	56	5.3%
8 To draw an arterial blood sample	12	1.1%
9 To obtain a body fluid or tissue sample	19	1.8%
10 Fingerstick/heel stick	9	0.9%
11 Suturing	289	27.5%
12 Cutting	81	7.7%
13 Electrocautery	13	1.2%
14 To contain a specimen or pharmaceutical	6	0.6%
15 Other, describe	165	15.7%
16 To place an arterial/central line	20	1.9%
17 Drilling	5	0.5%

Total records: 1,050

10. When did the injury occur?

1 Before use of item	27	2.7%
2 During use of item	584	57.5%
3 Between steps of a multi-step procedure	104	10.2%
4 After use, while disassembling device or equipment	10	1.0%
5 In preparation for reuse of reusable instruments	20	2.0%
6 After use, while recapping a used needle	30	3.0%
7 While withdrawing a needle from rubber or other resistance	3	0.3%
8 Other after use, before disposal	112	11.0%
9 After use, from item left on or near disposal container	3	0.3%
10 During disposal, while putting the item into the disposal container	24	2.4%
11 During disposal, stuck by item protruding from disposal container	6	0.6%
13 After disposal, item protruding from trash bag or inapp container	7	0.7%
14 Other, describe	58	5.7%
15 While restraining patient	1	0.1%
16 After use, device left on floor, table, bed or other inappropriate	27	2.7%

Total records: 1,016

11. Which device caused the injury?

1 Disposable syringe	343	20.7%
2 Pre-filled cartridge syringe	20	1.2%
3 Blood gas syringe (ABG)	16	1.0%
4 Syringe, other type	30	1.8%
5 Needle on IV line	5	0.3%

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6	Winged steel needle	47	2.8%
7	IV catheter stylet	51	3.1%
8	Vacuum tube blood collection holder/needle	34	2.1%
9	Spinal or epidural needle	7	0.4%
10	Unattached hypodermic needle	1	0.1%
11	Arterial catheter introducer needle	18	1.1%
12	Central line catheter introducer needle	6	0.4%
14	Other vascular catheter needle	9	0.5%
16	Huber-type needle	23	1.4%
17	Pen Needle	10	0.6%
28	Needle, not sure what kind	185	11.2%
29	Other needle, describe	159	9.6%
30	Lancet	9	0.5%
31	Suture needle	348	21.0%
32	Scalpel, reusable	32	1.9%
33	Razor	4	0.2%
35	Scissors	18	1.1%
36	Electro-cautery device	15	0.9%
37	Bone cutter	2	0.1%
38	Bone chip	4	0.2%
39	Towel clip	2	0.1%
40	Microtome blade	4	0.2%
41	Trocar	4	0.2%
42	Vacuum tube (plastic)	1	0.1%
44	Fingernails/Teeth	1	0.1%
45	Scalpel, disposable	59	3.6%
46	Retractors, skin/bone hooks	23	1.4%
47	Staples/Steel sutures	6	0.4%
48	Wire (suture, fixation, guide wire)	26	1.6%
49	Pin (fixation, guide pin)	5	0.3%
50	Drill bit/Bur	9	0.5%
51	Pickups/Forceps/Hemostats/Clamps	17	1.0%
58	Sharp item, not sure what kind	13	0.8%
59	Other sharp item, describe	70	4.2%
60	Medication ampule	1	0.1%
65	Specimen/Test tube, glass	1	0.1%
66	Capillary tube	1	0.1%
67	Glass slide	1	0.1%
68	Automobile glass/windshield	3	0.2%
79	Other glass item, describe	11	0.7%

Total records: 1,654

11a. Type of disposable needle used:

1	Insulin	81	24.5%
2	Tuberculin	40	12.1%
3	24/25G needle	69	20.9%

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4	23G needle	34	10.3%
5	22G needle	21	6.4%
6	21G needle	9	2.7%
7	20G needle	7	2.1%
8	Other	69	20.9%

Total records: 330

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	231	28.4%
2	No	507	62.4%
3	Unknown	74	9.1%

Total records: 812

12a. If yes, was safety mechanism activated?

1	Yes, fully	13	6.5%
2	Yes, partially	48	23.9%
3	No	133	66.2%
4	Unknown	7	3.5%

Total records: 201

12b. If yes, did the injury happen?

1	Before activation	127	50.2%
2	During activation	79	31.2%
3	After activation	44	17.4%
4	Unknown	3	1.2%

Total records: 253

13. Did the device have needles at both

2	No	2	100.0%
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Total records: 2

15. Location of the injury:

1	Hand, right	318	34.4%
15	Hand, left	578	62.6%
30	Other	28	3.0%

Total records: 924

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16. Was the injury?

1 Superficial-little or no bleeding	765	80.0%
2 Moderate-skin punctured, some bleeding	183	19.1%
3 Severe-deep stick/cut, profuse bleeding	8	0.8%

Total records: 956

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

1 Single pair of gloves	456	62.6%
2 Double pair of gloves	250	34.3%
3 No gloves	22	3.0%

Total records: 728

18. Dominant hand of the injured worker:

1 Right-handed	606	92.1%
2 Left-handed	52	7.9%

Total records: 658

19. Employment status

1 Employee	555	95.5%
2 Temp/Contract	2	0.3%
3 Student	24	4.1%

Total records: 581