

EPINet Report for Needlestick and Sharp Object Injuries | 2023



Reporting period: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 31, 2023

- 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
- 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
 - 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 Records Read: 1687
 Total rate 32.5 per 100 ADC
 Teaching rate: 35.2 per 100 ADC
 Non-teaching rate: 24.8 per 100 ADC
 ADC is Average Daily Census 5182
 N = 39 Hospitals

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

1 Doctor (attending, staff) specialty	243	14.8%
2 Doctor (intern/resident/fellow) specialty	301	18.3%
4 Nurse	568	34.6%
5 Nursing student	27	1.6%
6 Respiratory therapist	27	1.6%
7 Surgery attendant	164	10.0%
8 Other attendant	54	3.3%
9 Phlebotomist/ Venipuncture	48	2.9%
10 Clinical laboratory worker	52	3.2%
11 Technologist (non lab)	57	3.5%
12 Dentist	2	0.1%
13 Dental hygienist	2	0.1%
14 EVS/Housekeeper	12	0.7%
15 Other, describe	26	1.6%
16 EMT/Paramedic/ First Responder	8	0.5%
18 C.N.A./H.H.A.	38	2.3%
20 Security	3	0.2%
22 Physician's assistant	10	0.6%
Total records:	1,642	

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5. Where did the injury occur?

1 Patient room/ward	494	30.2%
2 Outside patient room	5	0.3%
3 Emergency department	122	7.5%
4 Intensive/Critical care unit	37	2.3%
5 Operating room/Recovery	700	42.8%
6 Outpatient clinic/Office	89	5.4%
10 Procedure room	89	5.4%
11 Clinical laboratories	36	2.2%
12 Autopsy/Pathology	3	0.2%
13 Service/Utility area	31	1.9%
14 Other, describe	4	0.2%
16 Labor and delivery room	20	1.2%
17 Home-care	5	0.3%
Total records:	1,635	

6. Was the source patient identifiable?

1 Yes	931	90.9%
2 No	18	1.8%
3 Unknown	35	3.4%
4 N/A	40	3.9%
Total records:	1,024	

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

1 Yes	1,021	72.3%
2 No	322	22.8%
3 Unknown	55	3.9%
4 N/A	14	1.0%
Total records:	1,412	

8. The sharp item was:

1 Contaminated	1,464	89.8%
2 Uncontaminated	96	5.9%
3 Unknown	71	4.4%
Total records:	1,631	

8a. Was blood visible on the device?

1 Yes	718	76.8%
2 No	18	1.9%
3 Unknown	199	21.3%
Total records:	935	

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

1 Unknown/not applicable	79	5.4%
2 Injection, intramuscular/subcutaneous	323	22.0%
4 Other injection into IV injection site or port	15	1.0%
5 To connect IV line	5	0.3%
6 To start IV or setup heparin lock	57	3.9%
7 To draw a venous blood sample	111	7.6%
8 To draw an arterial blood sample	34	2.3%
9 To obtain a body fluid or tissue sample	27	1.8%
10 Fingertick/heel stick	17	1.2%
11 Suturing	404	27.6%
12 Cutting	90	6.1%
13 Electrocautery	12	0.8%
14 To contain a specimen or pharmaceutical	25	1.7%
15 Other, describe	220	15.0%
16 To place an arterial/central line	27	1.8%
17 Drilling	19	1.3%
Total records:	1,465	

10. When did the injury occur?

1 Before use of item	37	2.6%
2 During use of item	715	50.4%
3 Between steps of a multi-step procedure	131	9.2%
4 After use, while disassembling device or equipment	64	4.5%
5 In preparation for reuse of reusable instruments	54	3.8%
6 After use, while recapping a used needle	24	1.7%
7 While withdrawing a needle from rubber or other resistance	6	0.4%
8 Other after use, before disposal	58	4.1%
9 After use, from item left on or near disposal container	1	0.1%
10 During disposal, while putting the item into the disposal container	38	2.7%
11 During disposal, stuck by item protruding from disposal container	5	0.4%
12 After disposal, item pierced side of disposal container	1	0.1%
13 After disposal, item protruding from trash bag or inapp container	7	0.5%
14 Other, describe	224	15.8%
15 While restraining patient	5	0.4%
16 After use, device left on floor, table, bed or other inappropriate	50	3.5%
Total records:	1,420	

11. Which device caused the injury?

1 Disposable syringe	387	23.1%
2 Pre-filled cartridge syringe	22	1.3%
3 Blood gas syringe (ABG)	18	1.1%
4 Syringe, other type	21	1.3%
5 Needle on IV line	3	0.2%
6 Winged steel needle	83	5.0%
7 IV catheter stylet	68	4.1%
8 Vacuum tube blood collection holder/needle	35	2.1%

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9 Spinal or epidural needle	4	0.2%
10 Unattached hypodermic needle	9	0.5%
11 Arterial catheter introducer needle	11	0.7%
12 Central line catheter introducer needle	7	0.4%
14 Other vascular catheter needle	10	0.6%
15 Other non-vascular catheter needle	5	0.3%
16 Huber-type needle	6	0.4%
17 Pen Needle	6	0.4%
28 Needle, not sure what kind	62	3.7%
29 Other needle, describe	97	5.8%
30 Lancet	15	0.9%
31 Suture needle	434	25.9%
32 Scalpel, reusable	51	3.0%
33 Razor	2	0.1%
35 Scissors	11	0.7%
36 Electro-cautery device	19	1.1%
37 Bone cutter	1	0.1%
38 Bone chip	4	0.2%
39 Towel clip	6	0.4%
40 Microtome blade	3	0.2%
41 Trocar	7	0.4%
42 Vacuum tube (plastic)	5	0.3%
44 Fingernails/Teeth	2	0.1%
45 Scalpel, disposable	39	2.3%
46 Retractors, skin/bone hooks	28	1.7%
47 Staples/Steel sutures	4	0.2%
48 Wire (suture, fixation, guide wire)	37	2.2%
49 Pin (fixation, guide pin)	13	0.8%
50 Drill bit/Bur	20	1.2%
51 Pickups/Forceps/Hemostats/Clamps	9	0.5%
58 Sharp item, not sure what kind	23	1.4%
59 Other sharp item, describe	74	4.4%
60 Medication ampule	3	0.2%
61 Medication vial	1	0.1%
65 Specimen/Test tube, glass	1	0.1%
67 Glass slide	1	0.1%
68 Automobile glass/windshield	5	0.3%
78 Glass item, not sure what kind	2	0.1%
79 Other glass item, describe	2	0.1%

Total records: 1,676

11a. Type of disposable needle used:

1 Insulin	75	29.8%
2 Tuberculin	24	9.5%
3 24/25G needle	46	18.3%
4 23G needle	19	7.5%

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5 22G needle	16	6.3%
6 21G needle	13	5.2%
7 20G needle	5	2.0%
8 Other	54	21.4%
Total records:	252	

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	330	27.3%
2 No	809	66.9%
3 Unknown	71	5.9%
Total records:	1,210	

12a. If yes, was safety mechanism activated?

1 Yes, fully	18	5.8%
2 Yes, partially	71	22.8%
3 No	222	71.4%
Total records:	311	

12b. If yes, did the injury happen?

1 Before activation	205	56.3%
2 During activation	101	27.7%
3 After activation	58	15.9%
Total records:	364	

15. Location of the injury:

1 Hand, right	531	39.8%
15 Hand, left	754	56.6%
30 Other	48	3.6%
Total records:	1,333	

16. Was the injury?

1 Superficial-little or no bleeding	971	73.0%
2 Moderate-skin punctured, some bleeding	348	26.2%
3 Severe-deep stick/cut, profuse bleeding	11	0.8%
Total records:	1,330	

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

1 Single pair of gloves	407	66.1%
2 Double pair of gloves	190	30.8%
3 No gloves	19	3.1%
Total records:	616	

18. Dominant hand of the injured worker:

1 Right-handed	995	94.2%
2 Left-handed	61	5.8%
Total records:	1,056	