

Taking the Sharp Out of Sharps Safety

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Disclosures

- Dr. Garrett
 - Consultant: Clorox Pro, Owens & Minor, Ambu, McKesson, Aerobiotix, Norton Healthcare, UVDI


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Objectives

- Review the regulatory landscape of sharps safety requirements in healthcare settings
- Discuss core practices to ensure medication and needle/syringe safety
- Review evidence-based strategies to protect healthcare workers and patients from preventable harm related to sharps-related injuries

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Background Context




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What are the True Risks with Sharps Injuries?


- CDC estimates ~385,000 sharps injuries annually among hospital-based healthcare personnel (>1,000 injuries/day)
 - Many more in other healthcare settings (e.g., emergency services, home care, nursing homes)
- Increased risk for bloodborne virus transmission
- Costly to personnel and healthcare system

Source: US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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SOURCE
Infectious person,
e.g. chronic, acute



HOST
Susceptible,
non-immune person

Source: US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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Risks of Seroconversion due to Sharps Injury
from a known positive source

Virus	Risk (Range)
• HBV	• 6-30%*
• HCV	• ~ 2%
• HIV	• 0.3%

(* Risk for HBV applies if not HB vaccinated)
Source: US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

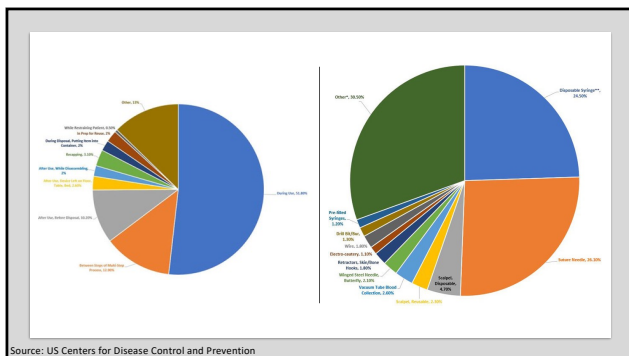
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What is the Risk of HIV Alone?

Percutaneous	0.3%
Mucous membrane	0.1%
Non-intact skin	<0.1%

Source: US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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Costs of Sharps Injuries

- Baseline and follow-up laboratory testing
- Treatment of exposed personnel
• \$71~\$5,000 depending on treatment provided
- Lost productivity
- Time to complete paperwork
- Loss of income / loss of career
- Emotional costs
- Societal costs

Source: O'Malley, et. al. Costs of Management of Occupational Exposure to Blood and Body Fluids. IDHL, July 2007, v.28, No. 7.

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When do Sharps Injuries Occur?

During use: 41%

After use/before disposal: 40%

During and after disposal: 15%

Other: 4%

Source: US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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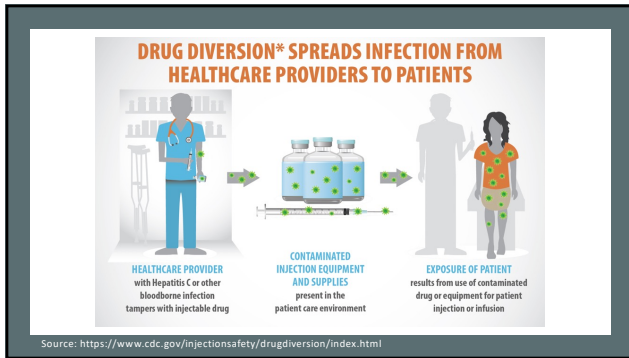
Drug Diversion
Plagues US
Healthcare

U.S. Outbreaks Associated with Drug Diversion by Healthcare Providers, 1983-2018

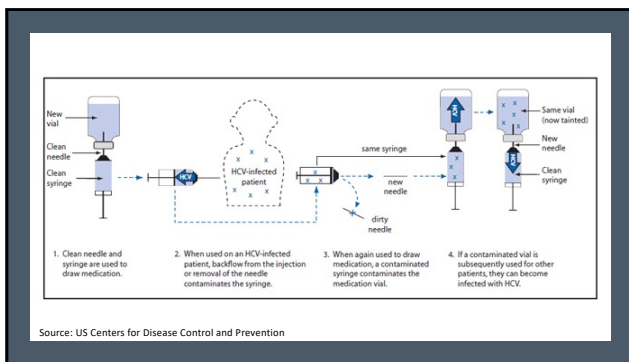
Year	Cases	Outbreak
2018	12	HCV infections associated with an emergency department nurse at a hospital in Washington [Ecozone.1]
2018	6	Sphingomonas paucimobils bacteremia associated with a nurse at a cancer center in New York [Ecozone.2]
2015	7	HCV infections associated with a nurse at a Utah hospital [Ecozone.3]
2014	5	Serratia marcescens bacteremia associated with a nurse in a post-anesthesia care unit at a hospital in Wisconsin [Ecozone.4]
2012	45	HCV infections associated with a radiology technician at hospitals in New Hampshire, Kansas and Maryland [Ecozones.9, 14, 15, 16]
2011	25	Gram-negative bacteremia associated with a nurse at a Minnesota hospital [Ecozones.5, 13]
2009	18	HCV infection associated with a surgical technician at a Colorado hospital [Ecozones.3, 12]

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/injectionsafety/drugdiversion/index.html>


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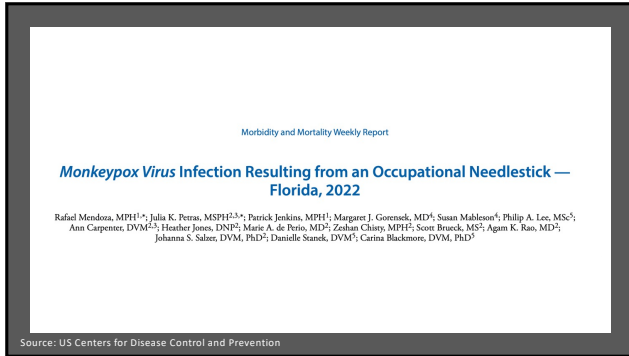
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- Using fingerstick devices for more than one person
- Using a blood glucose meter for more than one person without cleaning and disinfecting it in between uses
- Using insulin pens for more than one person
- Failing to change gloves and perform hand hygiene between fingerstick procedures

Outbreaks Associated with Glucometers

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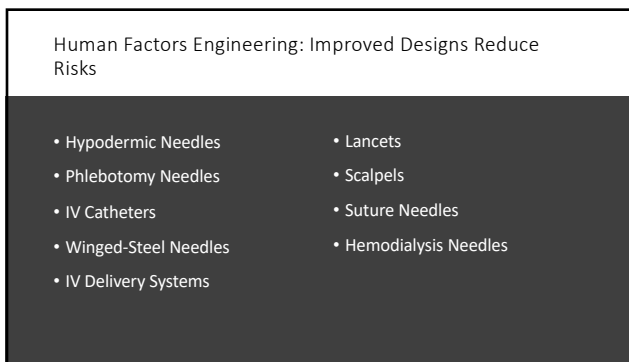
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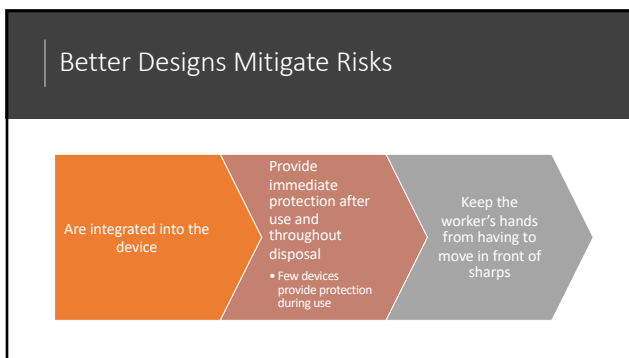
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People



- Do I have the right team members performing the role for which they are most qualified?
- How do I ensure the competency of my reprocessing personnel in reprocessing medical devices?
- Are my personnel able to meet the demands of our clinical practice with reprocessing?
- Do I have total confidence in my reprocessing process?


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Process

- How is my reprocessing process validated and how often?
- How often does the device vendor validate our reprocessing capability?
- What other devices does our facility use that may contribute to reprocessing failures?
- How would I know if I have a reprocessing failure and how many patients would be impacted?

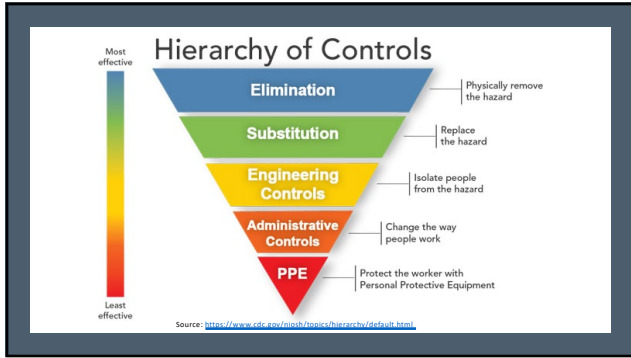
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Products

- Do I want to continue to take the known risks associated with reprocessing a reusable medical device?
- How old is my fleet of reusable devices and how often are they inspected, serviced, and assessed by the actual OEM device manufacturer?
- What other third-party devices might be used through the medical device that could result in damage to the device and create a pathway for potential device contamination?

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Regulatory Requirements

OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Act
Bloodborne Pathogens Training

OSHA Needlestick Prevention Act

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TRAINING

Training & Competency Requirements

- Time of Hire
- Annually
- Anytime a Product, Process, or Procedure Changes

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How do We Influence Safety?

- Values
- Attitudes
- Perceptions
- Competencies and
- Patterns of behavior



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Wait, We have a Toolkit for That?



Source: US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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Introduction to the Patient Notification Toolkit

[Print](#)

A Guide to Assist Health Departments & Healthcare Facilities with Conducting a Patient Notification Following Identification of an Infection Control Lapse or Disease Transmission

Patient Notification Toolkit

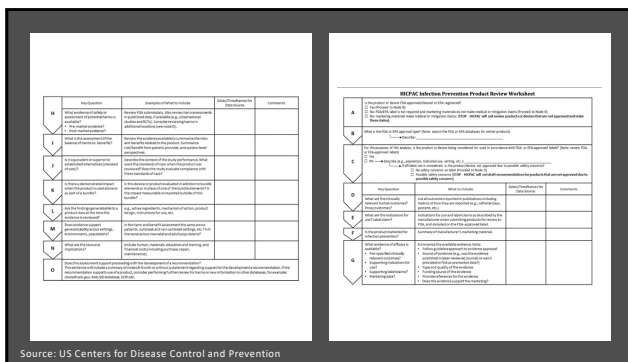
- **Introduction**
- Section 1: Developing Documents for a Patient Notification
- Section 2: Planning Media and Communication Strategies
 - Writing for Media
 - Spokesperson Preparation
 - Media & Patient Notification Letters
- Conducting a Successful Press Conference or Media Opportunity
- Section 3: Establishing Communication Resources
 - Example Q/A Resources
- Section 4: Best Practices in Conducting Patient Notifications
 - Scope/Acknowledgement
 - Additional Resources

To Access Toolkit: <https://www.cdc.gov/injectionsafety/ontoolkit/index.html>

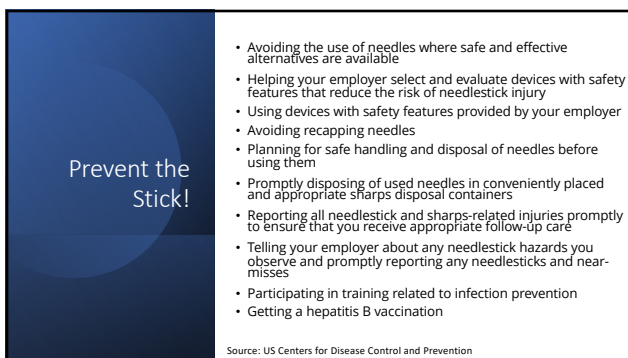
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Treat Exposures as Emergencies

- Wash needles and cuts with soap and water
- Flush splashes to the nose, mouth, or skin with water
- Irrigate eyes with clean water, saline, or sterile irrigants
- Report the incident to your supervisor
- Immediately seek medical treatment

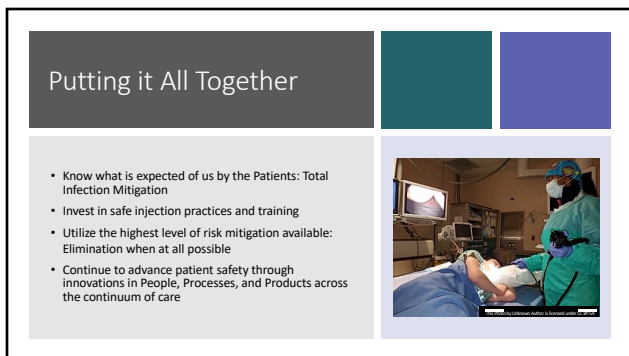
Source: US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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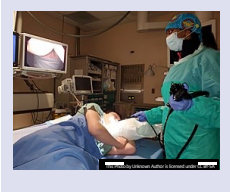
Clinicians' Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) Line: 1-888-448-4911

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Putting it All Together

- Know what is expected of us by the Patients: Total Infection Mitigation
- Invest in safe injection practices and training
- Utilize the highest level of risk mitigation available: Elimination when at all possible
- Continue to advance patient safety through innovations in People, Processes, and Products across the continuum of care



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Additional Tools & Resources

One & Only Campaign Materials For Order Via CDC-INFO

Safe Habitation Practical DVD Nov 22-2021

Post for Safe Habitation Provider Nov 22-2021

EVI Elimination Poster Nov 22-2021

Prevention Postcard - Patient Education Nov 22-2021

Inspector Safety Pocket Card Nov 22-2021

Logo Poster for Providers Nov 22-2021

Logo Poster for General Public Nov 22-2021

How to Order

SCAN
Scan with your Smartphone to access the ordering page

CALL
1-800-CDC-INFO

CLICK
<https://www.cdc.gov/pdfs/1p-ages>

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Stay Connected

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