

# **Needlestick Prevention Committee**

- **The key to a successful prevention efforts**
- **Must be multidisciplinary**
- **50% frontline workers**
- **Needs management commitment**
- **Oversees a variety of activities**

# Needlestick Prevention Committee

**Goal:** Reduce exposures through a series of comprehensive systematic approaches

**Activities:** Surveillance of BBP exposures  
Analysis of risks  
Safe device evaluation  
Pilot testing & implementation  
Post exposure prophylaxis  
Review of exposure control plan

# **What the Needlestick Prevention Committee Should Know**

- **Who is being injured most often**
- **Where the injuries are occurring**
- **What procedures are causing most injuries**
- **What are the highest risk injuries**
- **Categories and brands of safe devices in use**

# Needlestick Prevention Committee

## Setting Priorities

**High Risk  
Devices  
&  
Procedures**

# **Barriers to Purchasing Products for Safety**

- **Lack of administrative commitment**
- **Lack of awareness of risk**
- **Cost**
- **Purchasing contracts already in place**
- **Resistance to change**
- **Familiarity with present products**
- **Lack of info on available alternatives**

# Working With Purchasing

- **Learn about the process**
- **Inform about new guidelines and products**
- **Get frontline nurses involved**
- **Eliminate barriers**

# Frontline Workers Beware

- “Narrowed-down” array of devices
- Token involvement of frontline workers
- Rushed process of evaluation
- Order of device pilot trials and potential influence on evaluations
- “Patient safety and comfort” used as excuse for not implementing safe devices

*Set realistic goals  
for success.*