

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



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.***