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.