

Sharpsmart:

Impact of Engineering on Sharps Injuries

Authors Grimmond T, Bylund S, Anglea C, Beeke L, Callahan A, Christiansen E, Flewelling K, McIntosh K, Richter K, Vitale M

Publication American Journal of Infection Control 2010; 38: 799-805 . <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2010.06.010>

“Enhanced aperture design can significantly reduce container-associated sharps injuries. Other factors contributing to reduced injuries may include hand deposit, safe closure, hand restriction, and pre-assembly.” - Authors

What was the study?

This 2 year, 28 hospital before-and-after study **‘Sharps injury reduction using a sharps container with enhanced engineering: a 28 hospital nonrandomised intervention and cohort study’** examined the impact of conversion from disposable sharps containment systems to the Sharpsmart reusable collector.

14 hospitals converted to the reusable system, and 14 hospitals remained as a control cohort group who did not convert to the Sharpsmart reusable collector.

What were the results?

In the 14 hospitals who converted to Sharpsmarts:

- After-Procedure Sharps Injuries (SI) fell 30%
- Disposal Related SI fell 57%
- Container Associated SI fell 81%

In the control group using disposable sharps containers:

- No significant reductions occurred in container associated injuries.
- Total SI increased

Hospitals using the Sharpsmart reusable device had significantly fewer total SI than the control hospitals.

What does this mean for you?

The results demonstrate that the Sharpsmart reusable containment system delivers a significant reduction in container-related and disposal-related Sharps Injuries.

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