Behind the Mask:

Your Best Shot for Understanding the IPs Role in a Safe Injection Program

Terry Micheels MSN, RN, FAPIC Alisha Sheffield BSN, RN, CIC Lauren Musil BSN, RN



Meet our Subject Matter Experts





Terry Micheels MSN, RN, CIC, FAPIC

Terry is a Masters-prepared registered nurse with 29 years' experience as an Infection Preventionist in acute care settings. Fourteen of her 29 years involved managing IPC programs for community- and academic multi-hospital systems, including outpatient and ambulatory services. She has been certified in Infection Control since 2009 and is a Fellow in APIC. She is currently an IPC Consultant. She has multiple publications and has presented at National Annual APIC Conferences, national IPC webinars and multiple regional conferences.



Alisha Sheffield BSN, RN, CIC

Alisha is an Infection Preventionist and Registered Nurse with 21 years of experience in a variety of healthcare settings including ambulatory, acute care, and surgical areas. Over the past 13 years, she has worked as an Infection Preventionist in outpatient surgery as well as at a large academic medical center. Her recent work has focused on utilizing her IPC expertise to develop infection control tools and resources to assist Infection Preventionists in under-resourced settings.



Lauren Musil BSN, RN

Lauren is an Infection Preventionist with a background as Registered Nurse. She has a wide variety of healthcare experience having worked in neurology, neurosurgery, ambulatory surgery, home health and with the Nebraska Biocontainment unit. As an IP, her primary focus was in critical care, oncology, VAE prevention and as the IP to the Nebraska Biocontainment Unit. Her recent work has been spent in a grant funded role to develop innovative tools to aid IPs in rural and remote settings.



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- The views and opinions expressed during this webinar are those of the presenters and do not necessarily reflect those of the University of Nebraska Medical Center, The Nebraska Medical Center or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Overall Series Objectives



Analyze the fundamental components of a robust infection prevention and control program



Interpret guidelines, regulatory requirements, and best practice literature for a successful application to the infection prevention program



Utilize identified strategies to incorporate best practice into Infection Prevention programs



Integrate Infection Prevention program data to target prevention and improvement strategies



Combine acquired knowledge to enhance collaboration and teamwork within the healthcare system

Injection Safety Program Objectives





Define Injection Safety and its relevance to an IPC program



Define the necessary elements of an Injection Safety program



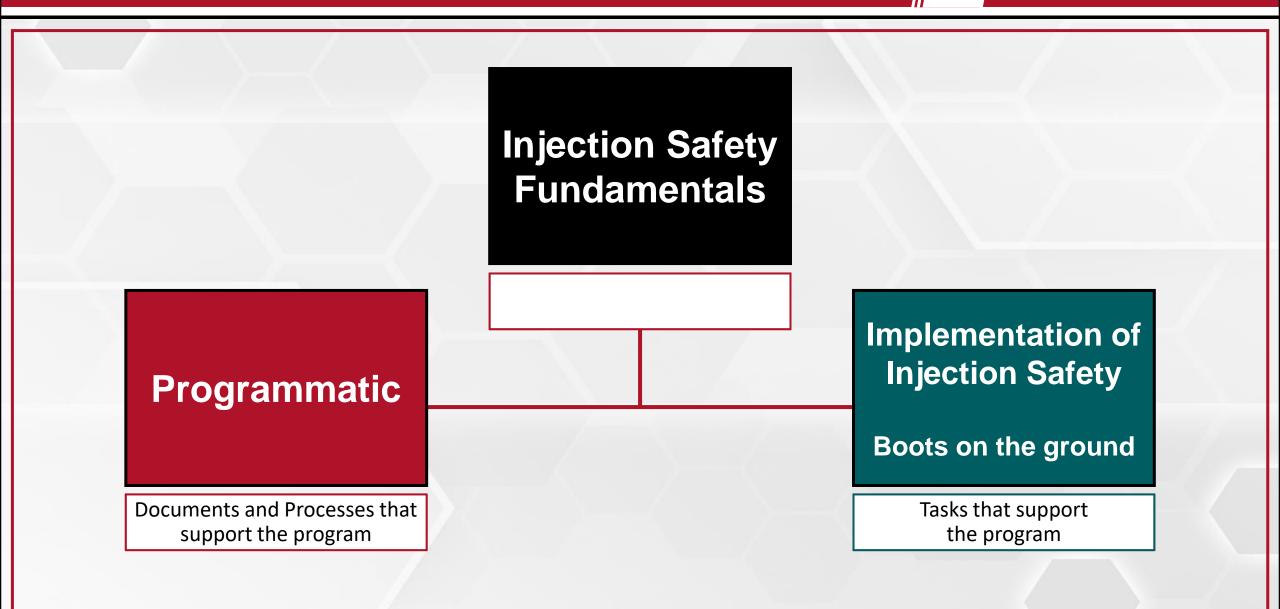
Explore various regulatory and reporting requirements related to injection safety



Utilize the information presented to identify common gaps and opportunities for Injection Safety

Injection Safety Programs





What is Injection Safety?



- Set of measures taken to perform injections is the safest manner possible to protect patients, healthcare workers and others
- Part of Standard Precautions





- sets and enforces workplace safety regulations to protect healthcare workers
 - o guidelines for safe handling and disposal of sharps (needles, syringes, etc.)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA):

regulate the safety of medical devices (needles, syringes etc.)

Center for Medicare & Medicaid services

Enforce compliance with sharps safety regulations

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

develop guidelines and recommendations

World Health Organization (WHO):

Global guidance

Professional Organizations

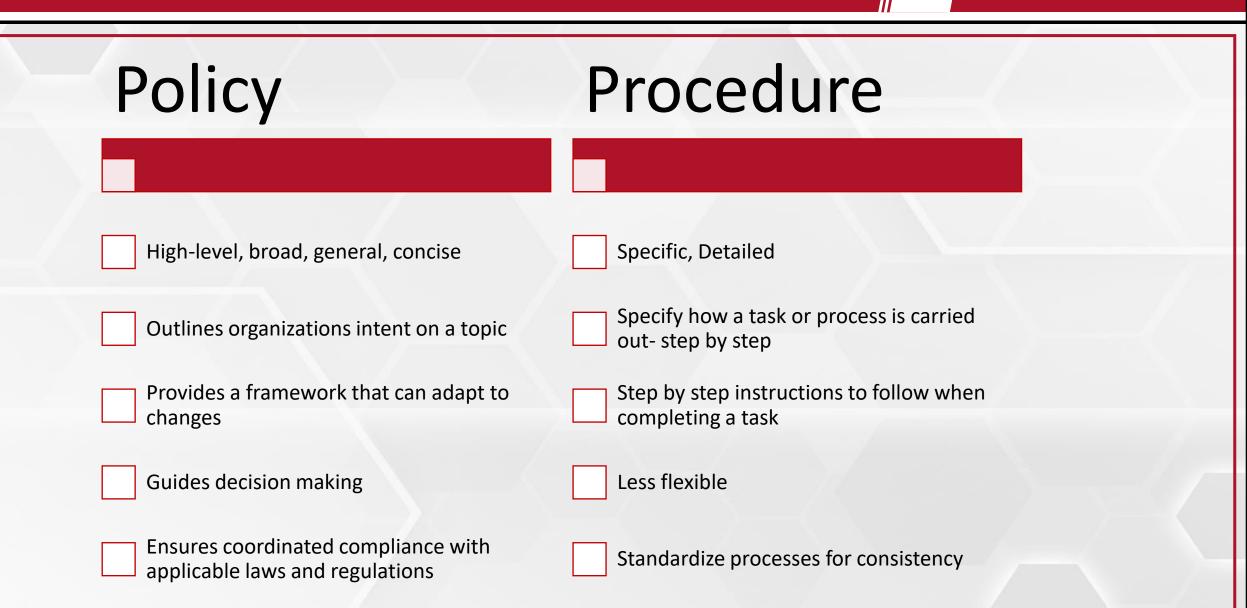
APIC, American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA)

Policies & Procedures



Medication Safety		ledication reparation	Single via			Multi-do vials		Single Use devices
 Education and training Competency based Audit and feedback 	• Cle • Or Or	eptic chnique ean area ne needle, ne syringe, ne time	 Use Storage One pate 		•	 Use Storage Expiration dating 		UseStorage
Sharps han	dling	Blood gl monite		Drug	Div	ersion		y Prevention program
 Point of use Sharps containers 		 Insulin p Lancets Glucome use/clea 	eter	• IPC involvement		nent	• Rev anr	luation





Why is Injection Safety Important?



- Patient Illness and Death
- Disciplinary actions and legal consequences
- Mistrust in the healthcare system



Hepatitis B Hepatitis C ²⁸ HIV²

Why is This Still an Issue?

- Lack of Time
- Save Money
- New employees
- Lack of Education
- Fast-paced environment

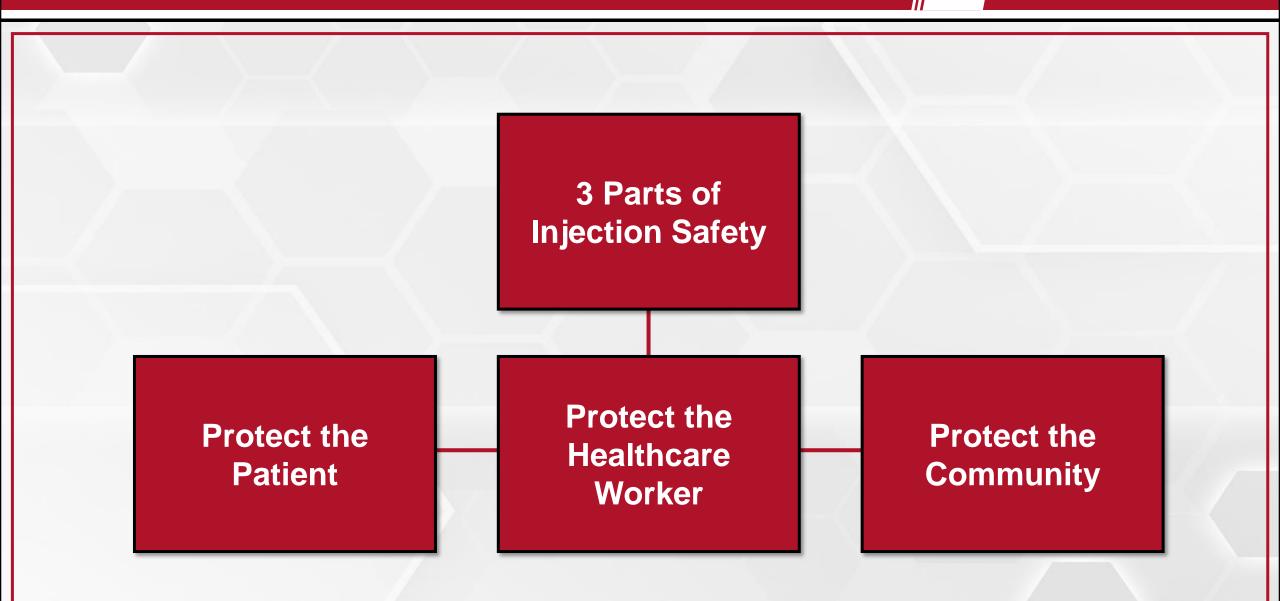
Med spas and Hydration Clinics ³⁰

- Lack of training and oversight
- No reporting requirements



What is Injection Safety





Protect the Patients



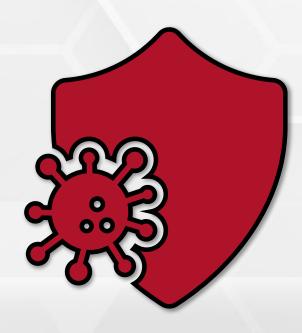


Outbreaks¹⁶

66 reported healthcare-associated viral hepatitis outbreaks between 2008-2019

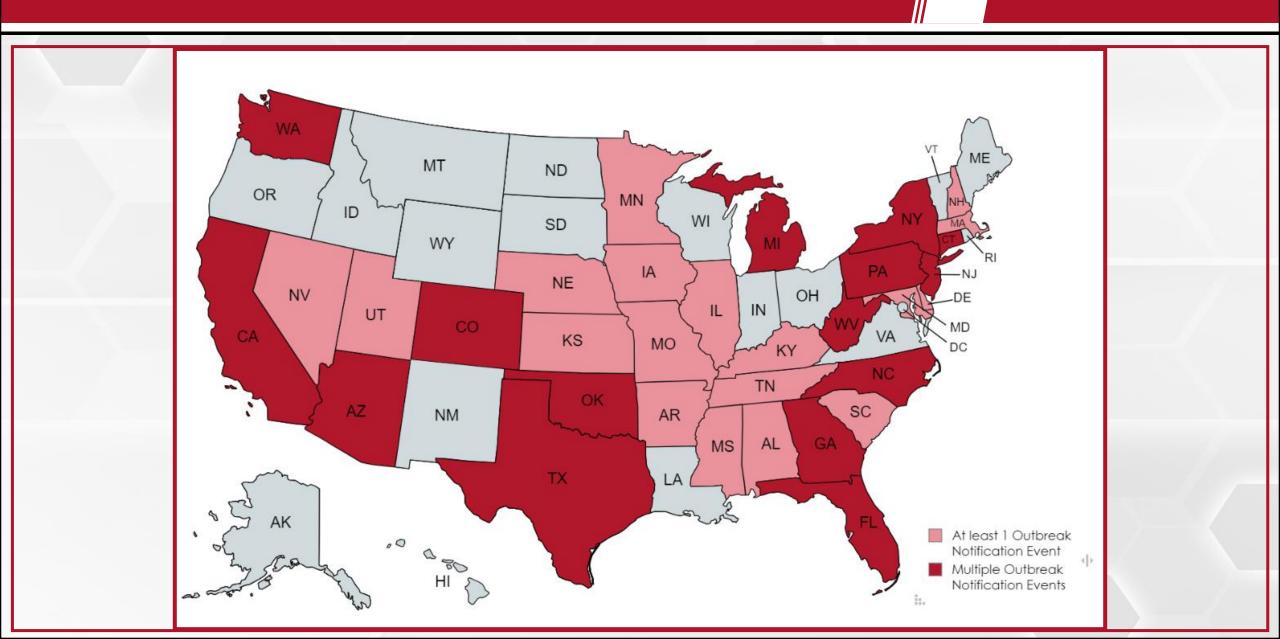
- 62 occurred in non-hospital settings:
 - Long-term care **
 - Dialysis (22)
 - Drug Diversion (4)
 - Pain Clinic
 - Outpatient cardiology clinic (1)
 - Dental clinic (1)
 - Outpatient oncology clinic (1)
 - Hospital surgery center (1)
 - o Other outpatient

Additional cases of likely patient-to-patient transmission, but not an outbreak





2012 – 2018^{17, 30}



UNMC

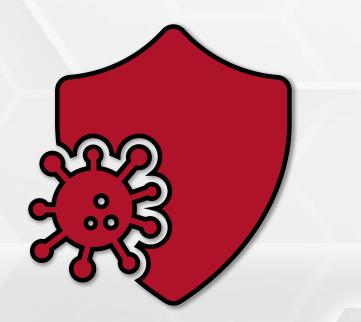
Nebraska Medicine





September 2002

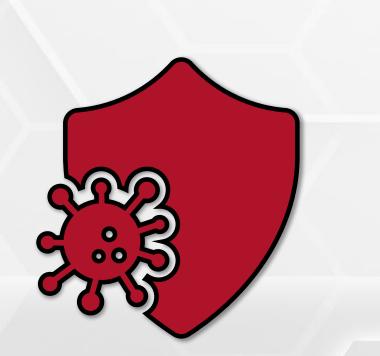
- Largest healthcare-transmitted outbreak of Hepatitis C
- Oncology clinic at a small healthcare facility in rural Nebraska
- 857 patients exposed to Hepatitis C
- 99 Contracted the virus
- Associated with shared saline bags



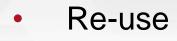
Primary Methods of Breaches¹¹

Re-use

- Direct- use on the same patient
 - 1% to 3% reused the same needle and/or syringe on multiple patients (CDC)
- Indirect- into a multidose vial or solution container
- Use of single-dose vials for multiple patients
- Contamination of multi-use vials
- Errors in aseptic technique
 - Hand hygiene
 - Contaminated workspace
- Lumbar Punctures



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- Lack of Time
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- New employees
- Lack of Education
- Fast-paced environment

Impact of Injection Safety Breaches





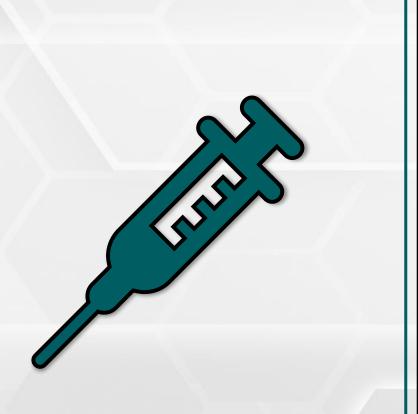
Safe Injection Practice Implementation





Standard Precautions Injection Safety

- Prepare and administer aseptically
- Use Syringe ONE time
- Use Needle ONE time
- No common source solutions (flush)
- Single-dose meds for single-patient use
- Multi-dose vials dedicated to ONE patient when possible
- Proper disposal and containers
- Mask for epidurals





Handling, preparing, and storing of medications and injection supplies to prevent microbial contamination.

Process to prevent contamination

- Designated Area
- Clean area
- Hand Hygiene
- Sterile equipment and supplies
 - o one syringe one needle one time
- Environmental controls
 - Expiration Dates
 - o Sinks
 - Non-medical supplies



Common Source Flush



- Contamination risk
- Infection Transmission
- Lack of Accountability



Single Dose Vials

- Dedicated to one patient
- Not stored for future use



Multi-Dose Vials

- Dedicated to one patient when possible
- Stored and prepared in a non-patient care area
 - If in a patient care area, they are dedicated to that patient
- NEW needle and NEW syringe with each access
- 28-day expiration





- Dispose immediately after use
- Sharps containers
 - o Accessible
 - Puncture resistant sharps containers, leakproof bottoms and sides
 - Labeled/color-coded (red)
 - o Lid
 - o Maintained upright
 - o Mounted
 - Basin for support

Mask for Epidurals ¹⁰



Outbreaks of bacterial meningitis after spinal injections

insertion of a catheter into epidural or subdural spaces

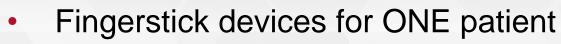
1990- First documented outbreak related to re-use of finger stick devices ²⁶

• CDC and FDA recommended reusable finger stick devices be dedicated to single patients

Outbreaks continued

- 1995- Three patients with acute HBV infection were identified who had been hospitalized on the same medical ward during a 19-day period several months earlier. Findings pointed to infection prevention practices for blood glucose monitoring ¹⁰
- 1996- Ohio and NYC ⁴
- 2009-2011 Virginia outbreak ⁵
- 2010- North Carolina





- Auto-disabling devices
- o Dispose of lancets in approved sharps container
- When possible, do not share blood glucose meters
 - o If must be shared, clean and disinfect after each use
 - Healthcare use monitors only
 - Only if the Manufacturer has instructions for re-use
 - HIV, Hep C, and Hep B kill claims
- One needle, One syringe, One time
- Aseptic preparation, clean storage



- Single dose vials used as multi-dose
- Multi-dose vials in patient care areas
- Multi-dose vials not dated
- Clean/dirty not separated
- Splash zone
- Storage of supplies

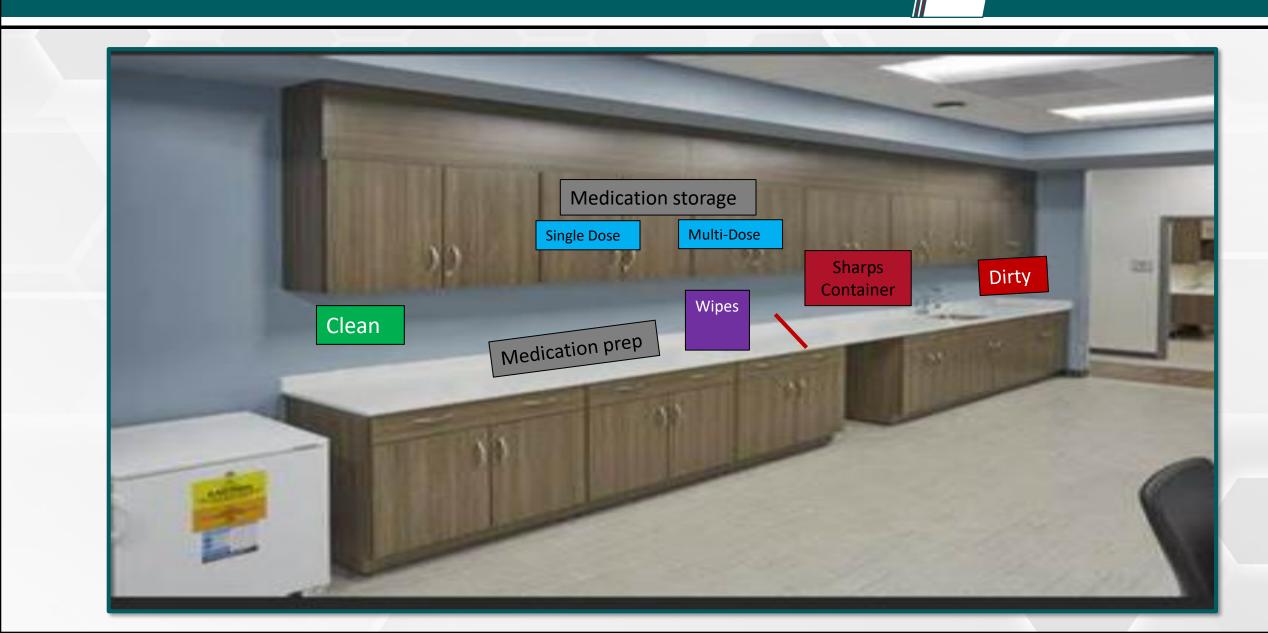
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DATE OPENED	2015 / 2016	EXPIRATION DATE		
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December 2	December 30	January 2		
December 3	December 31	January 3	January 31	
December 4	January 1	January 4	February 1	
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December 6	January 3	January 6	February 3	
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December 8	January 5	January 8	February 5	
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EOC









EOC



Storage	Preparation	Disposal	Point of Care Testing
 Meds secured Sharps secured Syringes secured Clean area No outdates Multi-dose vial storage 	 Aseptic technique Clean area Safety devices Single dose for one patient New needle new syringe 	 Puncture resistant Less than ¾ full Easily accessible Stable 	 Glucometer for hospital use Wiped between patients Single-use lancets

Injection Safety Checklist

https://www.cdc.gov/injectionsafety/PDF/Safe-Injection-Checklist-P.pdf ¹⁸

INJECTION SAFETY CHECKLIST

The following Injection Safety checklist items are a subset of items that can be found in the CDC Infection Prevention Checklist for Outpatient Settings: Minimum Expectations for Safe Care.

The checklist, which is appropriate for both inpatient and outpatient settings, should be used to systematically assess adherence of healthcare providers to safe injection practices. Assessment of adherence should be conducted by direct observation of healthcare personnel during the performance of their duties.

Injection Safety	Practice Performed?	If answer is No, document plan for remediation
Proper hand hygiene, using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water, is performed prior to preparing and administering medications.	Yes No	
Injections are prepared using aseptic technique in a clean area free from contamination or contact with blood, body fluids, or contaminated equipment.	Yes No	
Needles and syringes are used for only one patient (this includes manufactured prefilled syringes and cartridge devices such as insulin pens).	Yes No	
The rubber septum on a medication vial is disinfected with alcohol prior to piercing.	Yes No	
Medication vials are entered with a new needle and a new syringe, even when obtaining additional doses for the same patient.	Yes No	
Single-dose or single-use medication vials, ampules, and bags or bottles of intravenous solution are used for only one patient.	Yes No	
Medication administration tubing and connectors are used for only one patient.	Yes No	
Multi-dose vials are dated by healthcare when they are first opened and discarded within 28 days unless the manufacturer specifies a different (shorter or longer) date for that opened vial. Note: This is different from the expiration date printed on the vial.	Yes No	
Multi-dose vials are dedicated to individual patients whenever possible.	Yes No	
Multi-dose vials to be used for more than one patient are kept in a centralized medication area and do not enter the immediate patient treatment area (e.g., operating room, patient room/cubicle).	Yes No	
Note: If multi-dose vials enter the immediate patient treatment area, they should be dedicated for single-patient use and discarded immediately after use.		

The One & Only Campaign is a public health effort to eliminate unsafe medical injections. To learn more about safe injection practices, please visit www.cdc.gov/injectionsafety/1anonly.html.



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Drug Diversion Harms Patients 19, 15



- Reduced quality of care given by impaired HCP
- Failure to receive essential medications
- Falsification of patient records which could lead to additional/wrong medication administered to the patient



• Exposure to infectious agents

IP Role in Drug Diversion²⁵







Infection of the patient OR Infection of the employee

Determine Risk

- BBP status of healthcare provider
- Risk of disease transmission
- Risk of contaminated syringe
 - Bloodstream infections
 - Atypical HAIs

Contact Tracing

- Determine criteria for exposure
 - o Contact with patient
 - Contact with meds/supplies
 - Contact time frame

Patient Notification and follow-up

Introduction to the Patient Notification Toolkit | Injection Safety | CDC

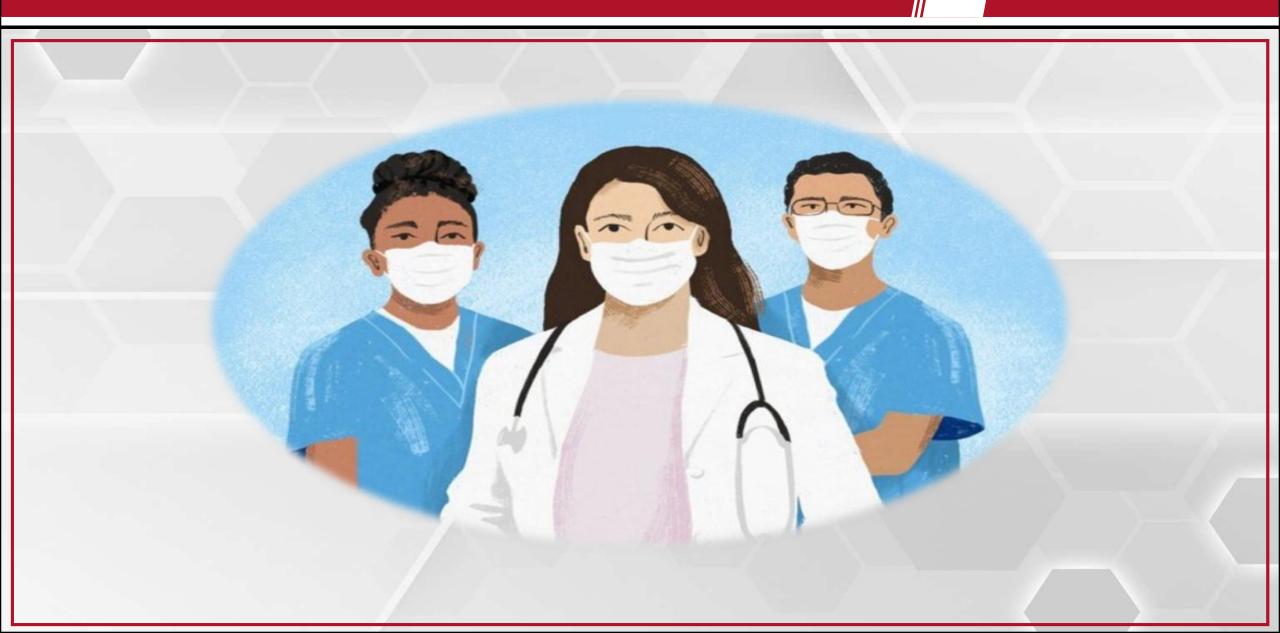
Safe Injection Recommendations ⁷



Recommendation	Category
Use aseptic technique to avoid contamination of sterile injection equipment	1A
Do not administer medications from a syringe to multiple patients, even if the needle or cannula on the syringe is changed. Needles, cannula and syringes are sterile, single-use items; they should not be reused for another patient nor to access a medication or solution that might be used for a subsequent patient	1A
Use fluid infusion and administration sets (i.e., intravenous bags, tubing and connectors) for one patient only and dispose appropriately after use. Consider a syringe or needle/cannula contaminated once it has been used to enter or connect to a patient's intravenous infusion bag or administration set	18
Use single-dose vials for parenteral medications whenever possible	1A
Do not administer medications from single-dose vials or ampules to multiple patients or combine leftover contents for later use	1A
Do not keep multidose vials in the immediate patient treatment area and store in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations; discard if sterility is compromised or questionable	1A
Do not use bags or bottles of intravenous solution as a common source of supply for multiple patients	1B
Infection control practices for special lumbar puncture procedures Wear a surgical mask when placing a catheter or injecting material into the spinal canal or subdural space (i.e., during myelograms, lumbar puncture and spinal or epidural anesthesia	18

Protect the Healthcare Worker





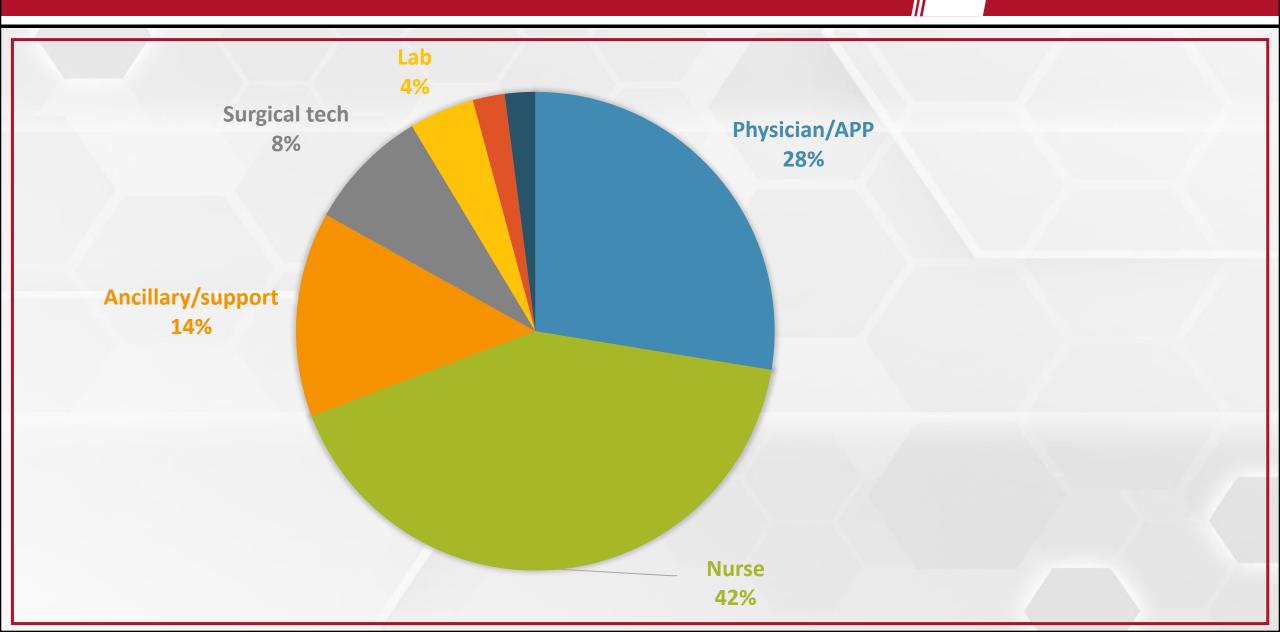
Sharps Injury ⁶



- Penetration from a sharp device that may result in exposure to blood or other potentially infectious material
- Loss of work and personnel time
- Cost of testing and post-exposure treatment
- Stress for workers

2022 Sharps Injury Data²³







Overall Injuries have declined since the 1990s

- Increased focus on the use of sharps injury prevention devices.
- Replacement of disposable syringes and butterflies with safer devices

No decrease in other injuries

- Sutures and scalpel blades
- Linen workers, EVS, Waste haulers
 - o 25% of all sharps injuries

Half go unreported

Common Pathogens 2, 28

	(PC) and	/or Labora	atory/Autopsy (L/A)		
Infection	PC	L/A	Infection	PC	L/A
Blastomycosis		×	Leptospirosis		~
Cryptococossis		\checkmark	Malaria	✓	
Diphtheria		\checkmark	M. tuberculosis	✓	✓
Ebola		\checkmark	Rocky Mountain		✓
Gonorrhea		\checkmark	Spotted Fever		
Hepatitis B	✓	\checkmark	Scrub typhus		✓
Hepatitis C	✓	✓	Strep Pyogenes		✓
HIV	✓	\checkmark	Syphilis		~
Herpes	✓				

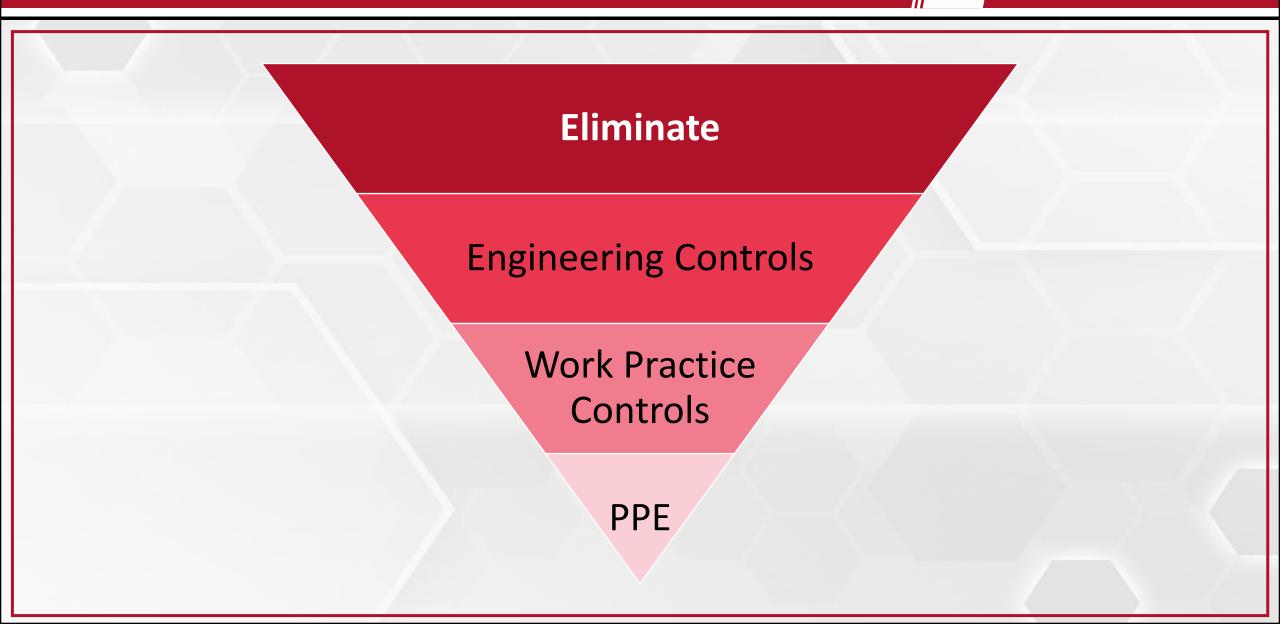
UNMC Nebraska Medicine





- Must have an exposure control plan
- Document annual consideration and implementation of appropriate and available safer medical devices
- Frontline non-managerial employees are included in:
 - Device identification
 - Evaluation
 - Selection

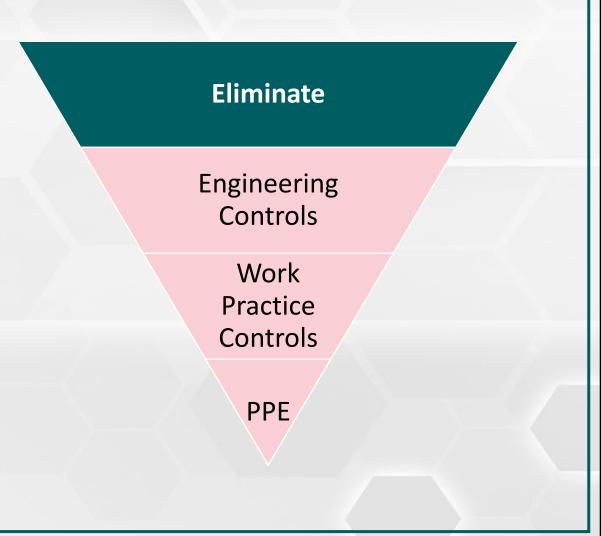




Decrease or Remove Sharps Use ¹³



- Needless IV systems
- Alternative medication delivery
- Specimen collection



Engineering Controls¹³

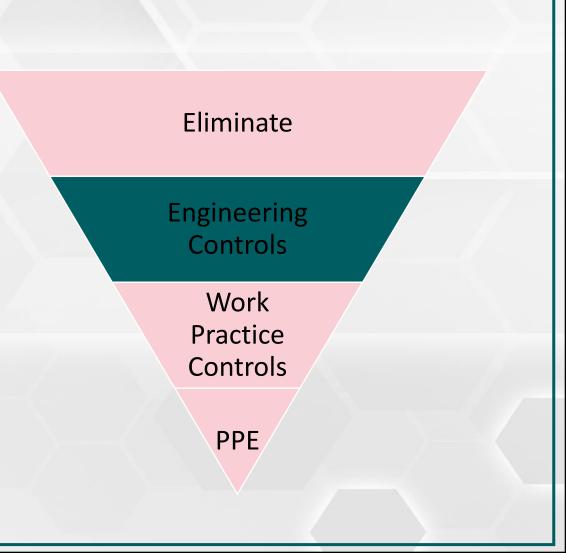


If sharps must be used, use safety features:

- Be a part of the device
- Simple operation
- Reliable and automatic
- Cost
- Don't compromise patient care



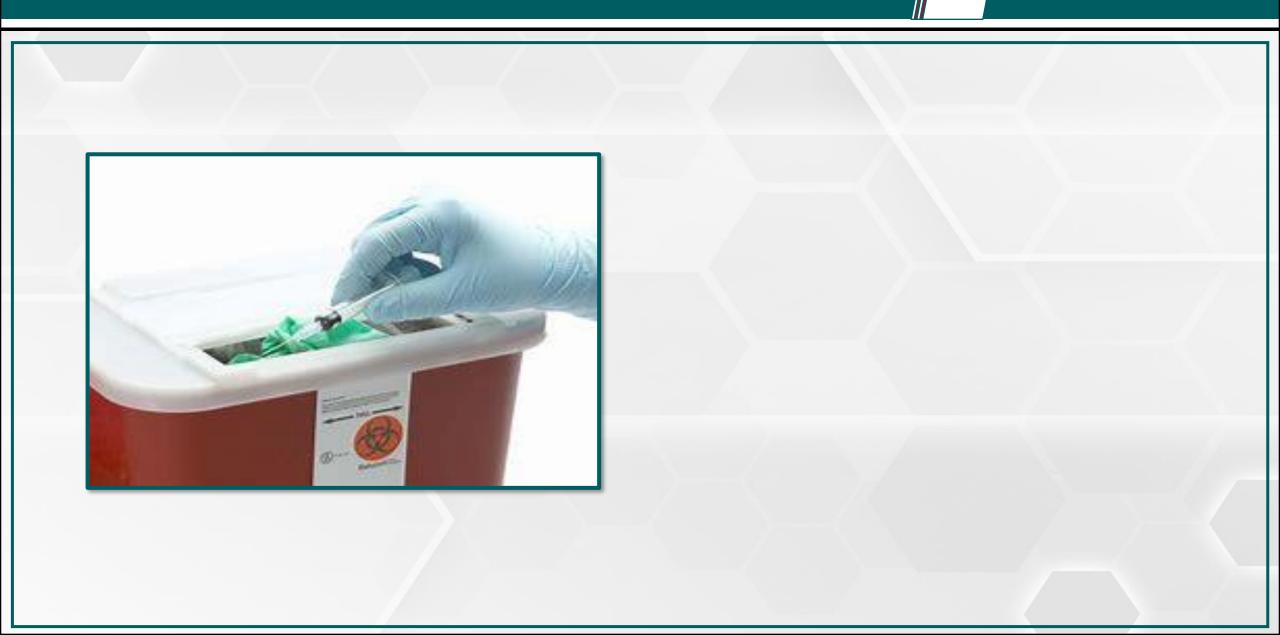




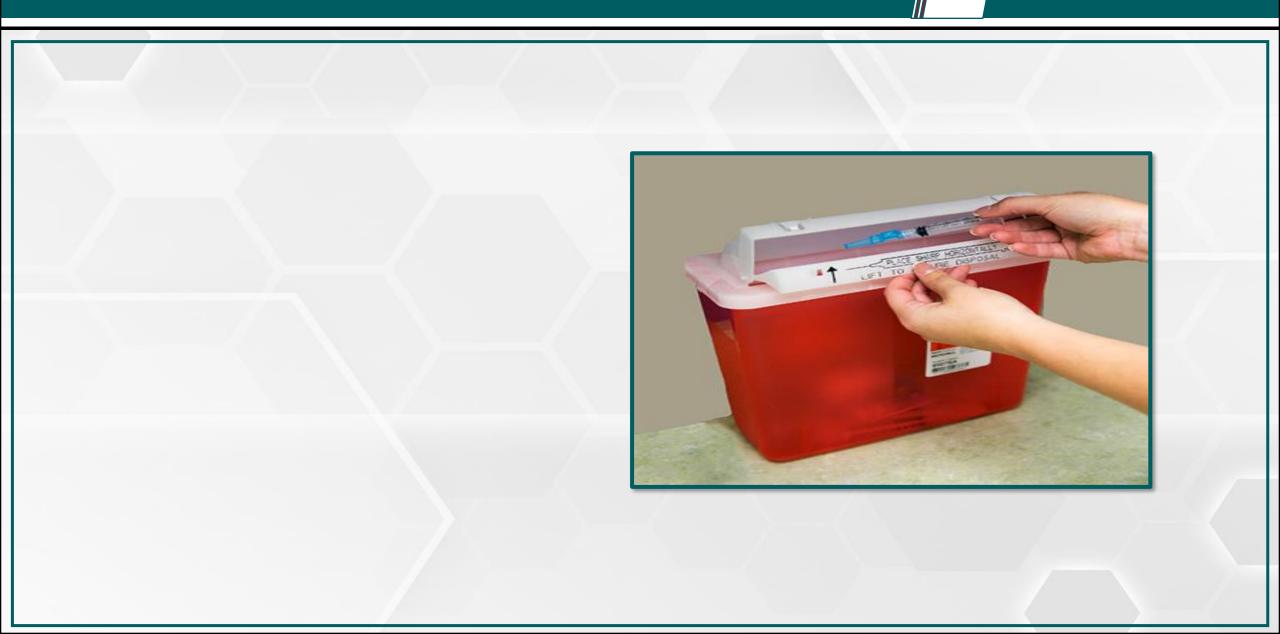
















Work Practice Controls¹

- Neutral Zone
- Hand- off
- Scoop technique
- Use of instruments











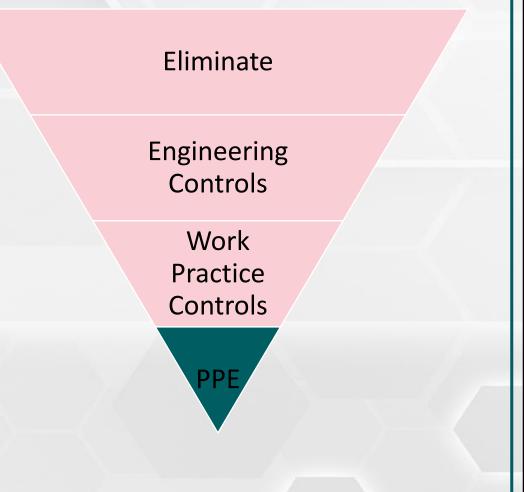


Double Gloving

Reduce the risk of contamination

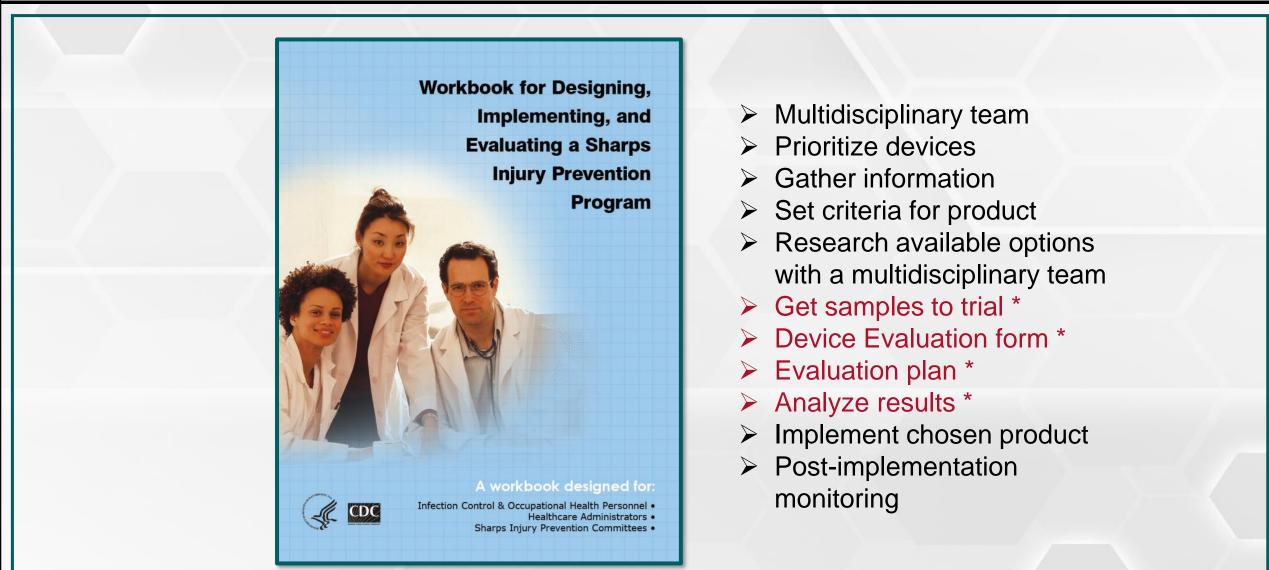
Eye Protection

- Personal glasses can be used if they have solid side shields
- Must be worn correctly



How Do We Evaluate for Daily Devices?⁸





https://www.cdc.gov/sharpssafety/pdf/sharpsworkbook_2008.pdf

Protect the Community







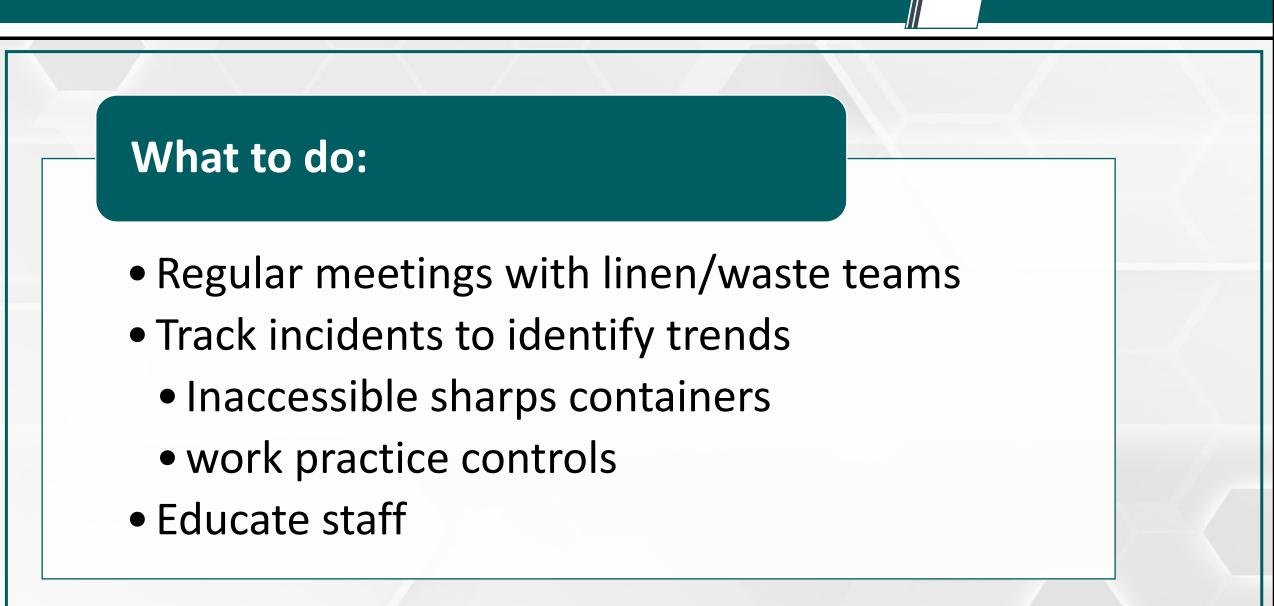
Waste management

Linen

 Up to 25% of exposures from EVS, linen and waste management ²¹

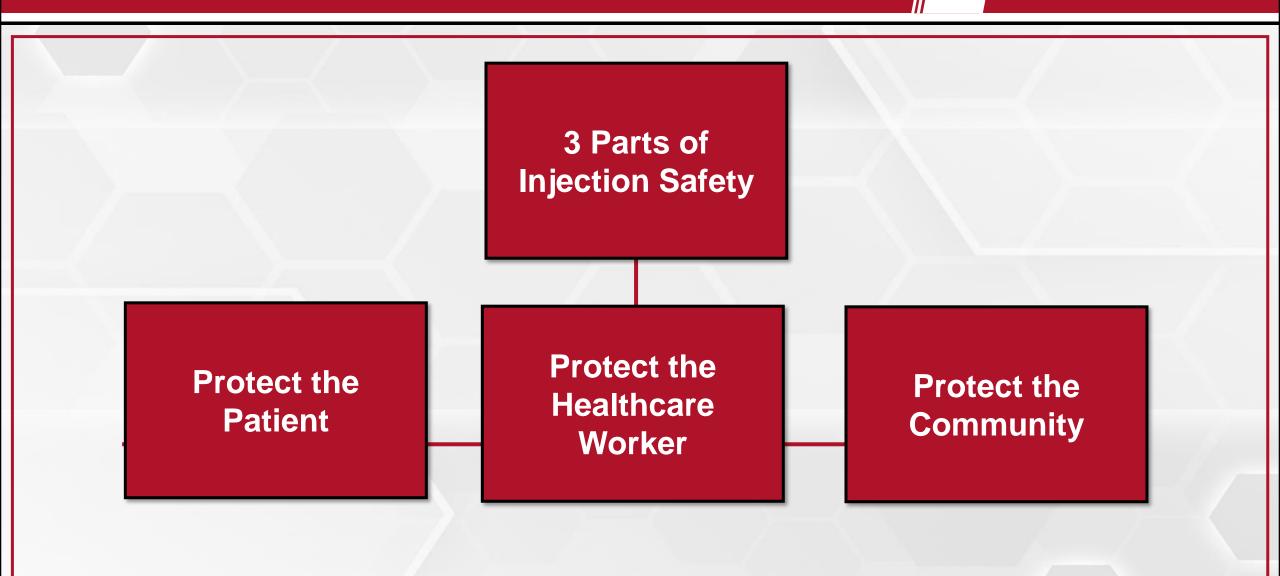
Issues with exposure from linen and waste

- Unknown source
- Related to inadequate disposal methods



Summary







Program Assessment Tool

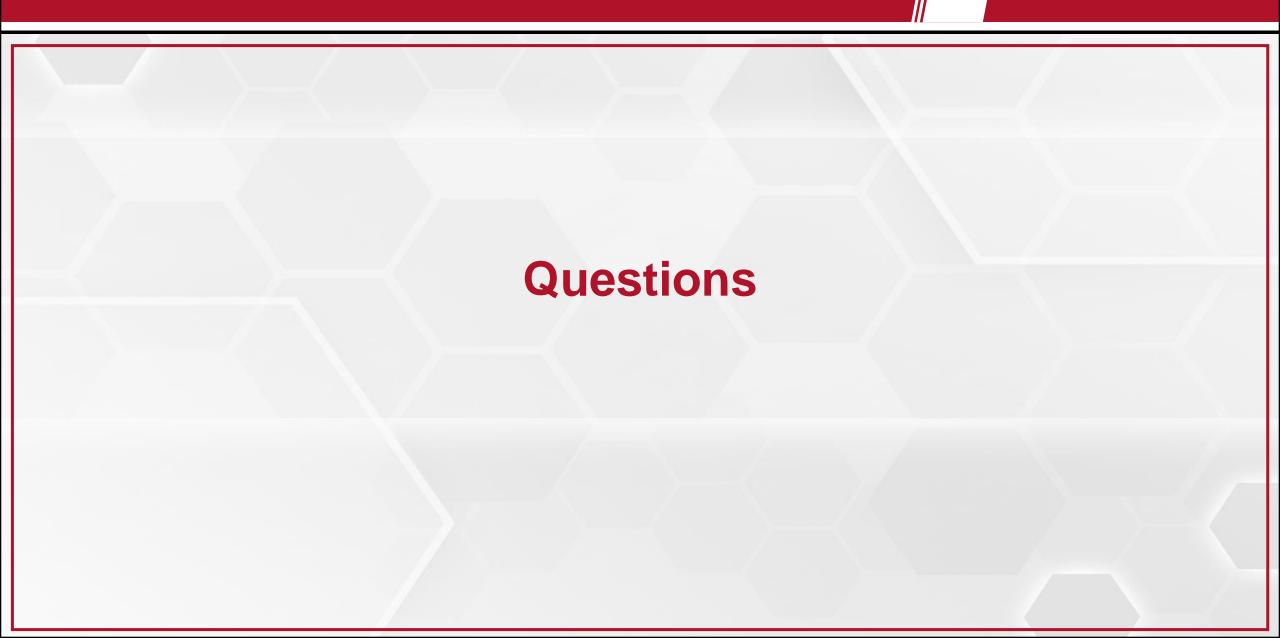




Join us next month for our webinar on CAUTI prevention programs April 18, 2024











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