

a p value < 0.001. The factors associated with bullying were the younger age group, shorter length of service, shifting work, non-managerial position and the designation as a doctor.

Conclusion A significant proportion of healthcare workers had been bullied, and bullying exposure was shown to be associated with depression and low self-esteem. Hence, regular screening for bullying, depression and low self-esteem should be done to enable early intervention.

1551 CHANGES IN TWENTY YEARS OF THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STATUS OF NEEDLESTICK/SHARPS INJURIES REPORTED TO JAPAN-EPINET THROUGH A NATION-WIDE SURVEILLANCE NETWORK

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Introduction This study aimed at examining annual logs of needlestick/sharps injuries (NSIs) collected through a voluntary nation-wide surveillance network in twenty-years for preventing occupational blood-borne infections. The emphasis was placed on revealing the past and current situations of NSIs in health care settings.

Methods Japan-EPINET format was developed by the technical support of the International Healthcare Worker Safety Centre, University of Virginia in the United States in 1996. Japan-EPINET Surveillance (JES) was conducted by the Research Group for Occupational Infection Control and Prevention in Japan (JRGOICP). Data were analysed in four phases of the nation-wide surveillance network of AIDS referral hospitals out of a total of 364 registered, a total number of hospital-year was 1879. These hospitals reported employees' percutaneous injuries on a voluntary basis.

Results A total of 65,032 NSIs were reported to Japan-EPINET from 1996 to 2015. The rate of hepatitis C antibody positive cases of the total NSIs decreased from 69.9% (1,511/2,161) in 1996 to 11.5% (714/6,201) in JES2015. The proportion of NSIs due to 'recapping' decreased (28.7%, 6.9% respectively). Devices caused to NSIs by winged steel needles (25.3%, 8.6%) and vacuum tube phlebotomy needles (4.8%, 1.7%) were decreased, disposal syringe (28.5%, 26.2%) and IV catheter (6.7%, 5.2%) were fairly decreased. The proportion of Suture needle (10.3%, 16.9%) and pre-filled cartridge syringe (2.8%, 8.3%) were increased.

Discussion The changes of characteristics NSIs in Japan in twenty-year suggested that recognition of the risks of NSIs was vital for promoting the effective use of safety-engineered needle/sharp devices and point-of-use disposal containers because the rate of hepatitis C antibody positive cases among voluntary reported NSIs. The creation of the nation-wide surveillance network was effective for monitoring and evaluating NSIs and for focusing on implementation of effective countermeasures.

25 PREPARATION OF HAZARDOUS DRUGS IN BIOLOGICAL SAFETY CABIN (BSC): THE CHALLENGE OF GETTING HEALTHIER WORK ENVIRONMENTS

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Introduction Hazardous drugs are an important risk to health care workers. Some of these products may even be potentially carcinogenic.

In different Spanish hospitals it was observed that only Cytostatics drugs were prepared in biological safety cabins, leaving workers exposed to the rest of hazardous non cytostatic drugs.

Methods A bibliographical review of scientific articles and researches has been carried out, together with the laws on occupational health and recommendations of the Spanish organisms.

In the USA, research promoted the development of policies of prevention and the incorporation of these drugs in the list NIOSH.

Result After analysing the information obtained, we detected the following problems: HD's are prepared in hospitalisation rooms, where the right conditions to protect workers are non-existent; In many cases, health care workers are given only personal protective equipment to avoid exposure; Specific health control isn't performed in most cases; National legislation obliges the risk to be taken into account for the worker. Although there are no long-term epidemiological studies, protective measures should be taken.

Discussion In many hospitals in our country HD's are not prepared in biological safety cabins. Health workers are unaware that they are exposed to these risks and no specific health training or monitoring is performed. Collaborative epidemiological researches should be promoted among Public Health Units, which have information on the prevalence rate of cancer diseases, and those responsible for occupational health prevention.

250 HOW THE WORKING BACKS PROGRAMME HELPED STAFF MANAGE BACK PAIN, REMAIN IN WORK AND REDUCE ABSENTEEISM

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Introduction The Working Backs Programme (WBP) is designed for staff reporting back pain as a result of work or whose work performance is affected. It's a comprehensive approach including medical assessment, provision of information and education, a designated physiotherapy and ergonomic staff referral service and a referral pathway for further investigations and/or review. The effectiveness was evaluated by an initial audit in 2012 and subsequent audits in 2015 and 2016.

Methods Data was collected through questionnaires at initial consultation and post discharge for comparison. This included