

Date: 24/02/2015

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - Ref: FOI/012100

With reference to your FOI request in connection with 'Sharps injuries' please see response below.

Please answer all questions and sub headings by circling the 'one' correct response (found in bold) and/or provide the text/numerical response required.

Question 1

What best describes your organisation?

- **Acute Trust/Hospital**
- General Practice
- Dental Surgery

Question 2

How many employees currently work for your organisation (including bank/locum associates, self employed etc)?

- <10
- 11-50
- 51-100
- 101-500
- **501 +**

Question 3

How many of those employees quoted in Question 2 are clinical staff?

- <10
- 11-50
- 51-100
- 101-500
- **501 +**

Question 4

Does your organisation have policies or procedures that cover the following areas?

- Standard universal infection control precautions
 - o **Yes** 'No' 'Don't Know'
- Safe handling and disposal of sharps
 - o **Yes** 'No' 'Don't Know'
- Banning of recapping of needles/sharps
 - o **Yes** 'No' 'Don't Know'
- Prevention of occupational exposures to blood-borne viruses including the prevention of sharps injuries
 - o **Yes** 'No' 'Don't Know'
- Management of occupational exposure to blood-borne viruses and post exposure prophylaxis
 - o **Yes** 'No' 'Don't Know'
- Clinical waste management
 - o **Yes** 'No' 'Don't Know'
- Have these policies been updated to incorporate the Health and Safety (Sharp Instruments in Healthcare) Regulations 2013
 - o **Yes** **No** 'Don't Know'

Question 5

How often are the policies and procedures in Question 4 reviewed?

- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Bi-Annually
- Every Year
- Every 2 years
- **Between 2 and 5 years**
- Greater than 5 years
- Don't know

Question 6

Is there a mandatory programme of on going health and safety education/training for new and existing staff in the prevention and control of blood and body fluid exposures?

- **Yes, for both new and existing staff** (please proceed to question 7)
- **Yes, but only for new staff** (please proceed to question 7)
- **Yes, but only for existing staff** (please proceed to question 7)
- **Not at present- there is no programme or the training is not mandatory** (please proceed to question 10)

Question 7

Which of the following staff participate in such training and education?

- Medical
 - **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'** **'N/A-staff group not employed'**
- Dental
 - **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'** **'N/A-staff group not employed'**
- Nursing (including midwives, dental nurses and healthcare assistants)
 - **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'** **'N/A-staff group not employed'**
- Allied health professionals (including physiotherapists, occupational therapists, nutritionists, lab workers, hygienists)
 - **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'** **'N/A-staff group not employed'**
- Support staff (for example porters and domestics)
 - **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'** **'N/A-staff group not employed'**
- Locum/Bank and Agency Staff
 - **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'** **'N/A-staff group not employed'**

Question 8

How is the training and education for staff on the prevention of blood and body fluid exposures provided by your organisation?

- Seminars or lectures
 - **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
- Written material
 - **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
- Workplace posters
 - **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
- Interactive training sessions
 - **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
- Intranet
 - **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**

Question 9

Does the information/training cover the following?

- Risk from injuries involving medical sharps
 - o **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
- Relevant legal duties on employers and workers
 - o **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
- Good practice in preventing injuries from sharps
 - o **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
- Benefits and drawbacks of vaccinations
 - o **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
- Support available and how to access such support (i.e. contact numbers for in and out of hours) if injured by a sharps injury, including provisions for follow up
 - o **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
- Correct use of safety engineered sharps
 - o **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
- Safe use and disposal of medical sharps
 - o **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
- Employers arrangement for health surveillance and other procedures
 - o **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**

Question 10

Does your organisation provide the following safety devices?

- Safety blood collection device (i.e. devices such as a 'vacutainer' for collecting blood with a needle or butterfly needle that provides a protective shield after withdrawal from patient)
 - o **'Never'** **'To some clinical staff'** **'To all clinical staff'**
'Device has been tested, but not purchased'
'Device or similar non safety device would not be required by organisation'
- Needleless intravenous delivery systems (i.e. a device that does not require needles for the administration of medication or fluids)
 - o **'Never'** **'To some clinical staff'** **'To all clinical staff'**
'Device has been tested, but not purchased'
'Device or similar non safety device would not be required by organisation'

- Safety intravenous cannulae (i.e. a venflon that provides a protective shield for the stylet or blunts the stylet before or during withdrawal from the patient)
 - **'Never'** **'To some clinical staff'** **'To all clinical staff'**
'Device has been tested, but not purchased'
'Device or similar non safety device would not be required by organisation'

- Syringes with a safety feature as part of the needle or syringe (to include dental syringe for delivering anaesthetic, arterial blood gas sampling syringe, and insulin syringes)
 - **'Never'** **Currently under new trials**
'To some clinical staff' **'To all clinical staff'** **'Device has been tested, but not purchased'** **'Device or similar non safety device would not be required by organisation'**

- Safety engineered scalpels (retracting, shielded and disposable)
 - **'Never'** **'To some clinical staff'** **'To all clinical staff'**
'Device has been tested, but not purchased'
'Device or similar non safety device would not be required by organisation'

- Blunted suture needles
 - **'Never'** **'To some clinical staff'** **'To all clinical staff'**
'Device has been tested, but not purchased'
'Device or similar non safety device would not be required by organisation'

If tested and not purchased, please state reason for not purchasing (i.e. funding)?

Question 11

Does your organisation provide sharps disposal bins that are...

- Portable (can be taken to bedside or to patient allowing immediate disposal of sharps after procedure- i.e. < 1 litre size)
 - o **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
'Device has been tested but not purchased'
'Device would not be required by organisation'
- Located where sharps are being used
 - o **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
'Device has been tested but not purchased'
'Device would not be required by organisation'
- Secure and clearly marker
 - o **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
'Device has been tested but not purchased'
'Device would not be required by organisation'

If not purchased, please state reason for not purchasing (i.e. funding)?

Question 12

Does your organisation provide the following Personal Protective Equipment?

- Protective surgical face mask
 - o **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
'Device has been trialed but not purchased'
'Device would not be required by organisation'
- Protective surgical face mask with eye visor
 - o **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
'Device has been trialed but not purchased'
'Device would not be required by organisation'
- Protective eye wear
 - o **'Yes'** **'No'** **'Don't Know'**
'Device has been trialed but not purchased'
'Device would not be required by organisation'

Question 13

Does your organisation dispense or prescribe safety devices when available? (i.e. safety subcutaneous heparin injections with safety needles)

- **Yes**
- **No**
- **Don't know**

Note: We are committed to buying safe medicines via the Commercial Medicines Unit (CMU) Contracts where available.

Question 14

Does your organisation do any of the following?

- Carry out a risk assessment for sharps injuries including the use of personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - o **Yes** 'No' 'Don't Know'
- Provide staff with access to an occupational health service
 - o **Yes** 'No' 'Don't Know'
- Provide on going health surveillance for sharps injuries
 - o **Yes** 'No' 'Don't Know'
- Actively consult with trade unions and safety representation on the *new* Sharps Regulations 2013
 - o **Yes** 'No' 'Don't Know'
- Ensure staff are aware of the *new* Sharps Regulations 2013
 - o **Yes** 'No' 'Don't Know'
- Evaluate compliance with the *new* Sharps Regulations 2013
 - o **Yes** 'No' 'Don't Know'

Question 15

How many sharps injuries have been reported to your organisation over the following periods?

- 1st April 2012-31st March 2013
 - o **Please provide total number** _____132_____

- 1st April 2013-31st March 2014
 - o **Please provide total number** _____144_____

Question 16

How many injuries were sustained in your organisation between 1st April 2012 and 31st March 2013?

Please provide total numbers in each box even if answer is '0'

If device not used, please state N/A in box

| | Total number of injuries? | Injuries involving a safety device? | Injuries involving a conventional device? (i.e. not safety) |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Blood collection devices | | | |
| Butterfly needles (winged infusion set) | | | |
| Venflon (intravenous cannulae) | | | |
| Scalpels | | | |
| Suture Needles | | | |
| Syringe and Needle | | | |

Question 17

How many injuries were sustained in your organisation between 1st April 2013 and 31st March 2014?

Please provide total numbers in each box even if answer is '0'

If device not used, please state N/A in box

| | Total number of injuries? | Injuries involving a safety device? | Injuries involving a conventional device? (i.e. not safety) |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Blood collection devices | | | |
| Butterfly needles (winged infusion set) | | | |
| Venflon (intravenous cannulae) | | | |
| Scalpels | | | |
| Suture Needles | | | |
| Syringe and Needle | | | |

Note: Q16&Q17 The Information for these dates is not available, reporting of injury types has started from September 2014

Question 18

How many safety devices were procured by your organisation between 1st April 2012 and 31st March 2013?

Please provide total numbers in each box even if answer is '0'

If device not used, please state N/A in box

| | Total number of safety devices procured? | Number of conventional devices procured (i.e. not safety) | Total number of devices procured? |
|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| Blood collection devices | 199,471 | 14,800 | 214,271 |
| Butterfly needles (winged infusion set) | 0 | 487 | 487 |
| Venflon (intravenous cannulae) | 156,350 | 1,729 | 158,079 |
| Scalpels | 0 | 82,330 | 82,330 |
| Suture Needles | 0 | 225 | 225 |
| Syringes with Needles | 300 | 22,600 | 22,900 |

Question 19

How many safety devices were procured by your organisation between 1st April 2013 and 31st March 2014?

Please provide total numbers in each box even if answer is '0'

If device not used, please state N/A in box

| | Total number of safety devices procured? | Number of conventional devices procured (i.e. not safety) | Total number of devices procured? |
|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| Blood collection devices | 199,944 | 9,800 | 209,774 |
| Butterfly needles (winged infusion set) | 0 | 155 | 155 |
| Venflon (intravenous cannulae) | 159,370 | 1,664 | 161,034 |
| Scalpels | 0 | 92,990 | 92,990 |
| Suture Needles | 0 | 285 | 295 |
| Syringes with Needles | 0 | 24,048 | 24,048 |

Question 20

Has your organisation or your employees made or received any claims for needlestick injuries?

- Yes
- No - **No claims received during financial year 2014/15**
- Don't know

Question 21- General Details

The information in this section will be kept confidential and will not be included in the study.

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Name of respondent | _____ |
| Role of respondent | Health & Safety Manager/Procurement Manager |
| Name of organisation | TheDudley Group NHS Foundation Trust |
| Address | Russells Hall Hospital |
| City/Town | Dudley |
| County | West Midlands |
| Postal Code | DY1 2HQ |
| Email Address | _____ |
| Telephone number | 01384 456111 |