

Nursing students are at high risk of NSIs in China. Occupational safety training should be developed and implemented to prevent NSIs among this vulnerable population” Zhang et al (2017).

Abstract:

Needlestick and sharps injuries (NSIs) are a major cause of occupational injuries for health care workers worldwide. In this study, the authors report the prevalence of and risk factors for NSIs among Chinese nursing students. A cross-sectional survey was distributed to 442 nursing students; 393 completed questionnaires were submitted.

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A total of 237 (60.3%) nursing students reported NSIs, which were more commonly reported by female students, younger students, students who worked frequent night shifts, students without safety training, and students who did not use personal protective equipment. Among those injured, 59.9% were injured by syringe needles, 21.9% by glass items, and 3.4% by scissors. Of those needles and sharps causing injuries, 36.3% of devices had been used on patients, 41% were unused, and 22.7% were unknown. Opening ampoules or vials was the most common injury agent. A total of 86.9% of NSIs were not reported to hospital infection control. Nursing students are at high risk of NSIs in China. Occupational safety training should be developed and implemented to prevent NSIs among this vulnerable population.

Reference:

Zhang, X., Chen, Y., Li, Y., Hu, J., Zhang, C., Li, Z., Stallones, L. and Xiang, H. (2017) Needlestick and Sharps Injuries Among Nursing Students in Nanjing, China. Workplace Health & Safety. October 1st. . .

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