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Part 6, Section 6.33

Sector: 7660 - Service Sector, Health Care and Social Assistance

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Title: R.N.

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Organization: BCNU

Submission:

These regs have several deficiencies. They only refer to vascular access, when most needlestick injuries happen with SC or IM needles, they only cover hollow bore instruments, and there is a host of other devices that are used to pierce the skin and are therefore contaminated with harmful viruses and other organisms, there is no mention of scalples, or of surgical staples, even the "stapler" used to pierce ears could be a source of infection for someone using it. These regs are weak, and are a milksop to the people on the frontlines, who will only think that they are being protected. In fact there is little protection for the majority of workers in health care if they are passed as they stand and the Board will have bowed to the pressure of the vested interests who are not interested in anything except keeping their perceived costs down and doing things the way that they have always been done. All devices that pierce the skin should be of the highest standard that can be provided. My grandmother knew that a stitch in time saved nine and the same principle applies here, it is much cheaper to prevent disease and injury than it is to treat and hopefully cure it. However with the hazards of blood borne infections that are present in our communities, cure is being optimistic. Please, please opt for the safest way and write regs that will cover all the dangerous sharps devices out there not some watered down half measure.

Q: The proposed change is easy to understand

A: Neutral

Q: The reasons given in the explanatory notes to support this change are relevant

A: Agree

Q: The proposed change will have a direct effect on the work carried out at my workplace

A: Strongly Disagree

Q: The proposed change will have a positive impact on the health or safety at my workplace

A: Strongly Disagree

Q: I support the proposal

A: Strongly Disagree

Q: I will participate in the regulatory review on-line process in future

A: Strongly Agree
