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Submission ID: P08.7Q6.LM2.75N

Part 6, Section 6.33

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

Name: Jacquie Ferrier

Title: Co-Chair South Islands Region

Type: Worker for large employer

Organization: BCNU

Submission:

I feel that the proposed language does not go far enough to protect workers from injury. A needle stick injury not only effects the workers but their family as well. The 2008 start date will mean that needless injuries will occur. The language needs to cover all sharps used by all employers not just Vasular Access Devices. The majority of injury does not occur with these devices. The language also needs to require employers to use the safest models not the cheapest. I work for an employer who went middle of the road and not with the safest devices. In this age with all the research and documentation we need to prove that this needs to happen, I hope you will change your language to meet the needs of the workers. That is what WCB is all about!

Although the stats shown in your proposed change deal with the highest risk areas (the chance of getting infected is with a Vascular Access Device) If does not address the most common needlestick injury area. Staff are still at risk using these devices and many still need to undergo treatment to prevent this from happening. The cost of using retractable devices should not out weight the cost of a workers life.

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: Strongly Disagree

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: Disagree

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

A: Strongly Agree