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Submission ID: P08.706.G62.Q36

Part 6, Section 6.33

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

Name: Jennifer Normandeau

Title: RN

Type: Worker for large employer

Organization: Vancouver Coastal Health

Submission:

I am writing to express my concern for the new sharps regulations that are about to be introduced. I am a nurse who works with sharps on a daily basis and the potential of contracting a fatal disease from a needlestick injury exists day in and day out. There are safer devices out there that can almost eliminate this potential. When choosing safer devices for health care professionals, you must pick the safest devices and include not only hollow bore needles, but also IM, SC, blood collection, etc, all types, where the potential of a needlestick injury exists. Your decision has a direct impact on the lives of thousands of healthcare professionals who work with dedication to improve patients' lives. This is not a decision to be made lightly. We implore you to look closely at what the SAFEST devices are (as evaluated in the safer sharps conference) and base your decision on that, NOT COST. A close friend and colleague of mine contacted Hepatitis C through an unsafe needle. How would you feel if this was one of your family members or someone you loved?? And all in the name of trying to care for someone. This is a risk that we should not have to take on a daily basis.

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: Neutral

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

A: Strongly Agree

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