

Your submission has been received.

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Submission ID: P08.706.RQ2.D6M

Part 6, Section 6.33

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

Name: Bonnie Overland

Title: Registered Nurse

Type: Health & Safety Professional

Organization: VIHA

Submission:

I believe strongly that the role of Worksafe must be exactly that.....

WORKSAFE. This means that ALL steps must be taken to keep workers safe within the Health Care Industry. Needless to say, this does not mean the cheapest devices can be used but the SAFEST! Too many Nurses and other Health Care Professionals are being injured on the job. This is absolutely not acceptable.....or, at least, should not be acceptable by Worksafe or the Employers. Using needles is unavoidable but being injured by a used needles is definitely avoidable providing the right devices are in place. All employees that must use needles should be equipped with the safest devices available! When working in an Emergency, needles often are misplaced or not disposed of properly due to the chaos in the room. Or, simply a misstep can result in a Nurse being stuck with a used needle. I have had this experience and I had no idea who the user of the needle was. I had to go through the blood tests more than once to make sure I had not contacted HIV or some of the other not so nice diseases out there. Health Care Workers are exposed daily to many germs, bacteria, violent patients, communicable diseases, musculo-skeletal injuries from all the lifting. Some of these things are occupational hazards. But, when a hazard can all be eliminated, I believe it is imperative for the Employer to provide that safety to the workers. Therefore, please do not make a policy that really means nothing to those of us who have to use needles in our workplace. Make a strongly worded policy that really does protect the people who are fighting to save patients, clients and their families. We deserve the safest work environment that can possibly be provided!!

Q: The proposed change is easy to understand

A: Disagree

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

A: Disagree

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

A: 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: Agree

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