

EU Sharps Directive

- European Biosafety Summit
- Implementation in Norway

3rd European Biosafety Summit London, 1st June 2012

- Keynote speakers included representatives from the European Commission, EU-OSHA, the Health and Safety Executive and the Social Partners, EPSU and HOSPEEM
- Provided a great opportunity to share best practice on the practical steps that employers and workers can take to prepare for the implementation of the Directive by 11th May 2013

Highlights

- 70 per cent of the Health budgets are used for salaries for the Health Care Workers (HCW).
- 80 per cent of the HCW are women, and female will therefore get most of the needle injuries.
- In UK ½ million pounds are used for needle stick injuries (NSI) and prophylaxis every year.
- By implementing the directive it is possible to reduce these costs!
- Trade unions have a big role to play upon authorities and leaders because they will look upon this from an economic point of view.

Highlights

- Safety devices protect HCWs from exposure to life-threatening diseases by preventing NSI.
- Safety devices can't eliminate all NSI, but more than a half can be prevented.
- The Council Directive will minimize the serious health risks caused by NSI.
- The Directive includes all workers that will be in contact with human blood, also workers who do piercing and tattooing.

Highlights from the workshops

- Individual risk assessment must be done locally in every country
- Mandatory training with use of needle protections
- Cooperation with the producers of safety devices, to influence what devices can be useful, involve HCW
- Knowledge of blood born deceases
- Learn students to report

Sted og tid

5

NITO NORWEGIAN LABOUR INSPECTION AUTHORITY
FOR HEALTHCARE OF TRANSFUSION

Highlights from the workshops

- E-learning
- Cooperation and culture changes
- Change the routines with the aim of reducing NSI
- Report, identify risk assessment and measure changes that has been done
- Publish the results

Sted og tid

6

NITO NORWEGIAN LABOUR INSPECTION AUTHORITY
FOR HEALTHCARE OF TRANSFUSION

Implementation in Norway

- The Norwegian Labour Inspection Authority is currently working with translation and implementation of the Directive
- There will be a public inquiry this autumn
- The Directive shall be implemented at the latest 11th May 2013
- BFI works to influence the authorities in Norway and intends to organize a workshop together with other health professions towards the inquiry

Sted og tid

7

NITO NORWEGIAN LABOUR INSPECTION AUTHORITY
FOR HEALTHCARE OF TRANSFUSION