

FDA SAFETY ALERT: Needlestick and Other Risks from Hypodermic Needles on Secondary I.V. Administration Sets --Piggyback and Intermittent I.V.

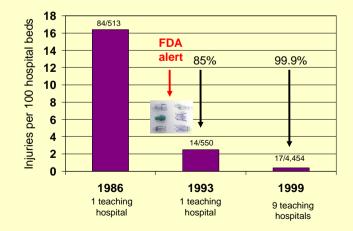
April 16, 1992

Dear Colleague:

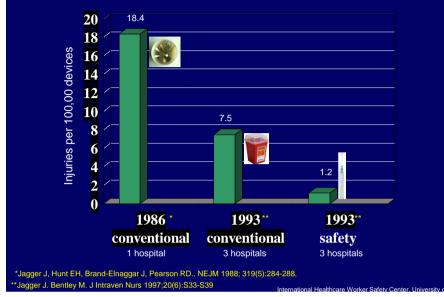
This is to alert you to the risk of needlestick injuries from the use of hypodermic needles as a connection between two pieces of intravenous (I.V.) equipment. The use of exposed hypodermic needles on I.V. administration sets or the use of syringes to access I.V. administration set ports or injection sites are unnecessary and should be avoided. Hypodermic needles should only be used in situations where there is a need to penetrate the skin.

Injury Rates from Needles on IV Lines Before & After the 1992 FDA Safety Alert

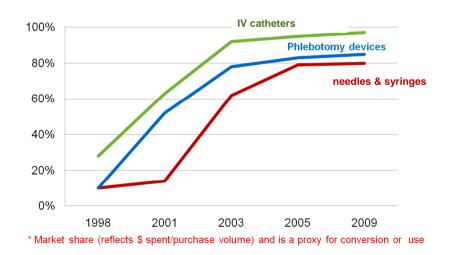
EPINet hospitals, International Healthcare Worker Safety Center



IV catheter injury rates per 100,000 devices



U.S. Estimated percent market share* of safety compared to conventional devices, 1998 – 2009

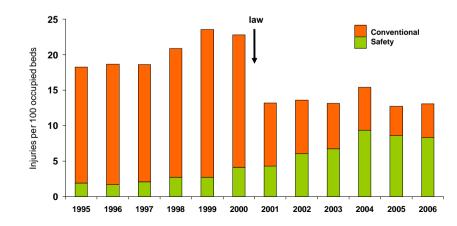


The Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act November 6, 2000



Injury Rates from Hollow-bore Needles: Safety versus Conventional, U.S. EPINet 1995-2006

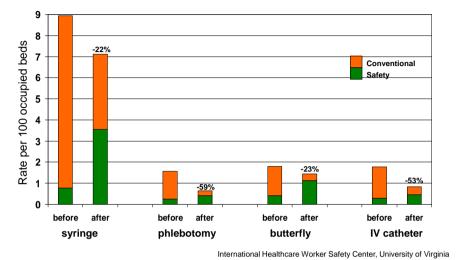
87 hospitals; total injuries = 24,440 (excludes injuries occurring before use of device)



International Healthcare Worker Safety Center, University of Virginia

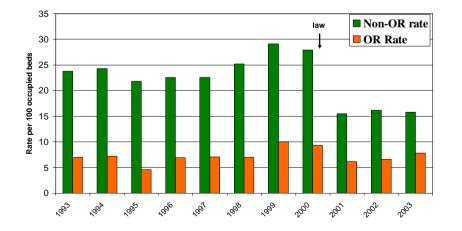
Figure 3 Device Specific Injury Rates Before (1993-2000) versus After (2001-2004)

US EPINet 1993-2004: 87 hospitals; total injuries = 10,778. Excludes injuries occurring before use of device



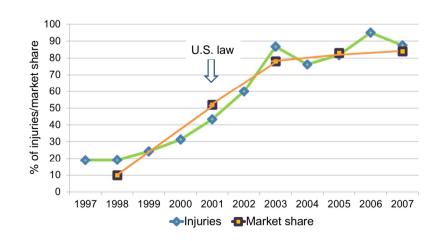
Two areas where progress lags: Operating Room Non-hospital settings

OR versus Non-OR Injury Rates



EPINet 1993-2003: 87 hospitals; total injuries = 28,895. Excludes injuries occurring before use of device

Figure 2 National Market Share of Safety Phlebotomy Needles, U.S. Compared to the Increasing Proportion of Injuries from Safety Phlebotomy Needles 1997-2007 Conventional phlebotomy needle injuries = 425 Safety phlebotomy needle injuries = 253



International Healthcare Worker Safety Center, University of Virginia

