

AOHP 2009 National Conference Poster Presentations Overview

Duck the Flu

Ginger Baker, RN, BSN

Riverside Community Hospital, Riverside, California

A toy rubber duck was offered to each person who took the flu vaccine. We received a \$1,000 grant from a drug company. The vaccine cart, full of ducks looking for homes, traveled the hospital. To keep the momentum going after Christmas, staff were encouraged to photograph their duck while on vacation. Ducks traveled throughout the world. Photos were displayed, and the staff voted. Awards were given. The flu vaccine was taken by 65 percent of staff this year as compared to 43 percent last year. More than 98 percent either took the vaccine or signed a declination.

Reduction of Sharps Injuries and Waste with a Reusable Safety Device – a Multi-Center Study

T. Grimmond, S. Bylund, R. Fink, C. Anglea, L. Beeke, A. Callahan, E. Christiansen, K. Flewelling, K.

McIntosh, K. Richter and M. Vitale *Ascension Health, St. Louis, (SB, RF) and Carondelet Health, Kansas*

City, (EC), Missouri; Saint Thomas Hospital, Nashville, Tennessee (CA); Borgess Medical Center,

Kalamazoo, Michigan (LB); Mount St. Mary's Hospital, Lewiston, (AC) and St. Mary's Hospital,

Amsterdam, (KF), New York; St Vincent's Hospital, Bridgeport, Connecticut (KM); St Vincent Hospital, (KR)

and The Heart Center, (MV), Indianapolis, Indiana.

The Daniels Corporation, Australia

Fourteen Ascension Health hospitals converted from disposable sharps containers to a reusable sharps collector (Sharpsmart, Daniels Sharpsmart Inc. IL) (the Device) and examined the impact of the Device in a 24-month Before-After study. Sharps injuries (SI) categories were compared before and after Device intervention and were also compared with SI rates in a size-matched cohort of 14 hospitals not using the Device. Sharps waste stream weights and container change-outs were also compared in hospitals using the Device.

“Dr. Lift” to the Rescue

MaryAnn Gruden, CRNP, MSN, NP-C, COHN-S/CM

The Western Pennsylvania Hospital, West Penn Allegheny Health System, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Lifting patients off the floor is a high hazard task that healthcare workers (HCWs) potentially face every day. In an effort to reduce the risk of injury to HCWs attempting to lift a patient off the floor and to maintain patient safety, the WorkSAFE Safe Patient Handling Team developed a process to safely lift patients off the floor. The “Dr. Lift” code was created and implemented to achieve this goal. Through discussion with stakeholders, the code procedure was developed, initiated and refined. In addition, the team has utilized the hospital’s simulation lab to “film” the code as an educational tool for new hires and injured staff.

Prevention of Bloodborne Exposures to Healthcare Workers Employed in Correctional Facilities

Janice M. Huy, MS and Everett J. Lehman, MS

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Cincinnati, Ohio

Healthcare workers are at increased risk for occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens. Work practice guidelines have been issued by government agencies to reduce this risk. However, data are lacking on the degree to which such guidelines are used in non-hospital or non-traditional healthcare settings. This poster presentation provides the results of a study examining bloodborne prevention

compliance within a sample of correctional facilities. Health education materials developed to address noted deficiencies will be presented.

Developing an Online Tutorial for Powered Air Purified Respirators (PAPRs)

Karen Karwowski, RN, BSN, MSN, Ed., L. Carter, CIC, CHSP, R. Salter, SPHR and J. Howell-Butler, MA II
Henry Ford Health System, Detroit, Michigan

Henry Ford Health System, which employs approximately 21,000 employees throughout Southeastern Michigan, has for many years, prior to the enforcement of the OSHA regulations, performed pre-hire and annual respirator fit testing for all employees who meet the requirement of direct patient contact. In 2008, Employee Health began receiving requests from multiple departments, particularly those in high-risk areas such as Pulmonary and Emergency Medicine, to implement an improved educational process for employees who “fail” the N95 respirator fit testing process and need to use Powered Air Purified Respirators (PAPRs) when caring for patients who are in isolation for active Tuberculosis.

3 Easy Steps to an Employee Health Fair

Mia Murphy, BSN, RN, CRRN

The Children’s Institute of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

This poster presentation will provide step-by-step instructions on how to implement an Employee Health Fair that will promote a healthy lifestyle and educate employees about day-to-day activities that impact their well being. Tapping the knowledge base of fellow employees and members of the healthcare community at large to participate in an Employee Health Fair widens the base of support for the health fair and creates a sense of anticipation and a desire within the employees to take advantage of the information presented at the fair.

N95 Filtering Facepiece Respirator Preparedness: Healthcare Field Study Findings

Debra A. Novak, DSN, RN

CDC/NIOSH/NPPTL, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

NIOSH conducts respirator certification and an active research program, including projects to increase proper respirator use in healthcare settings. Studies are underway to determine whether NIOSH-certified N95 filtering facepiece respirators (FFR) can be decontaminated and safely reused during inventory shortages at times of national emergency. Information about hospital pandemic preparedness and available technologies to support FFR decontamination is presented based upon discussions with healthcare organizations, distributors, manufacturers and oversight agencies. Current hospital planning efforts, healthcare workers’ state of readiness and recommendations for how to most effectively transmit N95 FFR proper use/reuse guidelines to hospitals and healthcare workers are also presented.

Walk Across America: A Team Approach to a Worksite Wellness Project

Leilani Wagner, MSN, FNP-BC, Ginikanwa Ukpabi, MPH, MSN, FNP-BC, Jeanette Morris, RN, BSN and Susan Keller, MLS

Children’s National Medical Center (CNMC), Washington, DC

The pedometer is a low cost motivating factor for promoting healthy behavior in the work environment (Eastep et.al., 2004; Croteau, 2004). The Occupational Health Department at Children’s National collaborated with the Medical Library and Human Resources to develop a pedometer-based walking program for their employees to combat inactivity. Using an accurate pedometer according to various studies (Koulouri et al., 2006; Chan et al., 2004), employees self-monitored their progress weekly. The project is based on the results of a pilot walking program that demonstrated the effectiveness of walking to control weight and prevent chronic diseases.

Mass Prophylaxis: Taking Care of Employees So They Can Take Care of Patients

Christine C. Zirges, RN, ACNS-BC, CIC and Dale Reinhold, MCP

BJC HealthCare, St. Louis, Missouri

“Strengthen medical surge and mass prophylaxis capabilities.” This is one of several emergency preparedness (EP) priorities from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. EP efforts at this large healthcare system include taking care of employees and their families. One major initiative is a plan for mass prophylaxis, which has been tested in a large scale, regional exercise and at each of our hospitals individually. We have demonstrated that an automated system, pre-populated with employee demographic information, saves time. We have also demonstrated that just-in-time training and small scale drills are effective and keep us in “stay ready” mode.