Abstracts

rotated every 4 hr. Only 38.6% was trained (control of precaution and protection) by the Ministry of Public Health. In one year later, The worker had an accident or injury (punch with needle or other sharp) from IW during working 42.5%, 37.8% have had contaminated or touch with the infectious fluid, 18.9% had traffic accident (car turnover, clash, offside cone) and 8.3% had the IW or leachates flood pour out from vehicle or container. The factors associated with risk of the health of the IW worker taken into account of affect of other factors, it were found that prevention and precaution training, job position, age and yearly health check were statistical significant with the health risk, it were found that prevention and precaution training (OR = 4.61) job position (OR = 3.68), Age (OR = 2.97)and yearly health check (OR = 0.96) were statistical significant with the health risk. The problems of IW transportation from hospital by PTS were health risk. The infectious waste management (IWM) which organised by PTS need to develop for better system and quality.

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HEALTHCARE WORKERS AND OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE TO ANTINEOPLASTIC DRUGS IN ONCOLOGY WARDS

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Objective To quantify levels of Ifosfamide (IF) in urine among healthcare workers in a hospital setting.

Methods This cross-sectional study identified 70 subjects who handled IF in oncology wards or antineoplastic drug preparing units at a medical school hospital. Their urine samples were collected at 1–2 hours prior to the end of each work shift, the levels of IF was determinate by gas chromatography mass spectrometer (GC/MS). Information on demographic information, work practice, work position, working station, medication timing and dosages including the time of urine collections was collected using self-administered questionnaires and personal interviews.

Results IF levels were detected in urine of 20 personnel (28.6% of total) with geometric mean of 3.6 ng /mL, arithmetic mean 43.6 ng /mL, min-max of 16–526 ng/mL. Among IF-positive subjects, 53.8% of workers with were in the age group of 41–60 years. Levels of IF were found in all subjects who were drug-preparing workers were found positive tests for IF. The levels of urine IF (geometric mean) were found to be of 526 ng/mL among the pharmacist assistants, 3.1 ng/mL for cleaning worker, 2.9 ng/mL for nurses, and 86.8 ng/mL for pharmacists.

Conclusions All groups of healthcare workers in the processes of anti-neoplastic medication especially among pharmacist assistants and cleaning workers. Although in a high standard protection against the oncological chemicals, health personnel are at risk of contaminations especially among professional assistants and general workers.

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POSSIBLE HIV EXPOSURE: LABORATROY WORKERS KNOWLEDGE ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIOUR

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A company wide KAP survey was conducted around HIV, but in this workplace, exposure to HIV through work exposures was also possible. In a high prevalence HIV country workers perceptions and behaviour around needlesticks play a role in the occupational health and safety

Methods This survey was nested within the larger KAP survey which was distributed to all employees of the company with their pay slips. The questions covered knowledge of correct procedures to follow, likely hood to take prophylaxis and complete the course. Results 1497 employees participated in the KAP survey which covered all regions of South Africa and represented all occupations within the company. One third of participants were only partly aware or not al all aware of the correct procedure to follow after a needlestick, and those who were unfamiliar wit the procedure were also more likely to over estimate the ideal window for starting post exposure prophylaxis. 33% of participants would only take PEP if the injury warranted it. These findings were significantly associated with education but not job category. Age also played a significant role in the perception of risk and compliance. Only 9% of staff reported a needlestick in the past 5 years but in a high prevalence HIV country these people are at high risk.

Conclusions The training of laboratory staff needs to be undertaken with focus on those with lower education levels to ensure understanding. This will allow all employees to have the best information around needlesticks and post exposure prophylaxis.

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EXPOSURE TO STATIC MAGNETIC FIELDS INCREASES RISK OF ACCIDENTS AMONG WORKERS FROM A MEDICAL IMAGING DEVICE PRODUCTION FACILITY

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Acute neurocognitive and balance effects, and reported health complaints such as vertigo related to static magnetic fields (SMF) from magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) devices were the reason to study the effects of these exposures on the occurrence of accidents. In this first retrospective cohort study among workers from a facility producing medical imaging devices we studied the association between SMF and occurrence of accidents in general and during commuting.

Methods SMF exposure was assessed with a manufacturing facility specific historical job exposure matrix linked to company records on individual job histories, resulting in two SMF exposure measures: exposure in the year of a self-reported accident (recent exposure) and cumulative exposure up to the end of the year an accident was reported (career exposure). Data on occurrence of accidents was collected through an online questionnaire (1479 participants, participation rate 30%). Data on injuries and physician-treated injuries due to accidents in the past 12 months were analysed with logistic regression. Discrete-time survival analysis was applied to historic data on the reported year of the first ever (near) traffic accident during commute to and from work

Results High recent SMF exposure was found to be related to an increased risk of accidents leading to injury (Odds Ratio 4.39, 95% Confidence Interval 1.20–16.06) with a stronger effect for injuries treated by a physician (OR 6.28, 95%CI 1.70–23.26). High recent SMF exposure was associated with increased risk (Hazard Rate 3.21, 95% Confidence Interval 1.36–7.18) of (near) accidents during commute from home to work, but not from work. No increased risks were found with respect to career exposure after adjustment for recent exposure.