



Singapore Healthcare
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OUCH! No More



National Dental
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SingHealth

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Introduction

All sharps injuries are a hazard that can lead to a risk of infection. Sharps and needle stick injuries are wounds caused by needles, blades, sharp instruments or burs.

Essentially, any object that is able to cut the skin can be considered a sharps. It may cause only a small wound in the skin, but the effects can be worse as blood borne viruses such as HIV or Hepatitis could be transmitted through the instrument which has come in contact with infectious patient.

Who is at risk ?

All staff who are working in the healthcare setting are at risk. Staff who do not dispose of sharps properly will expose other people such as cleaners to sharps injury as well.

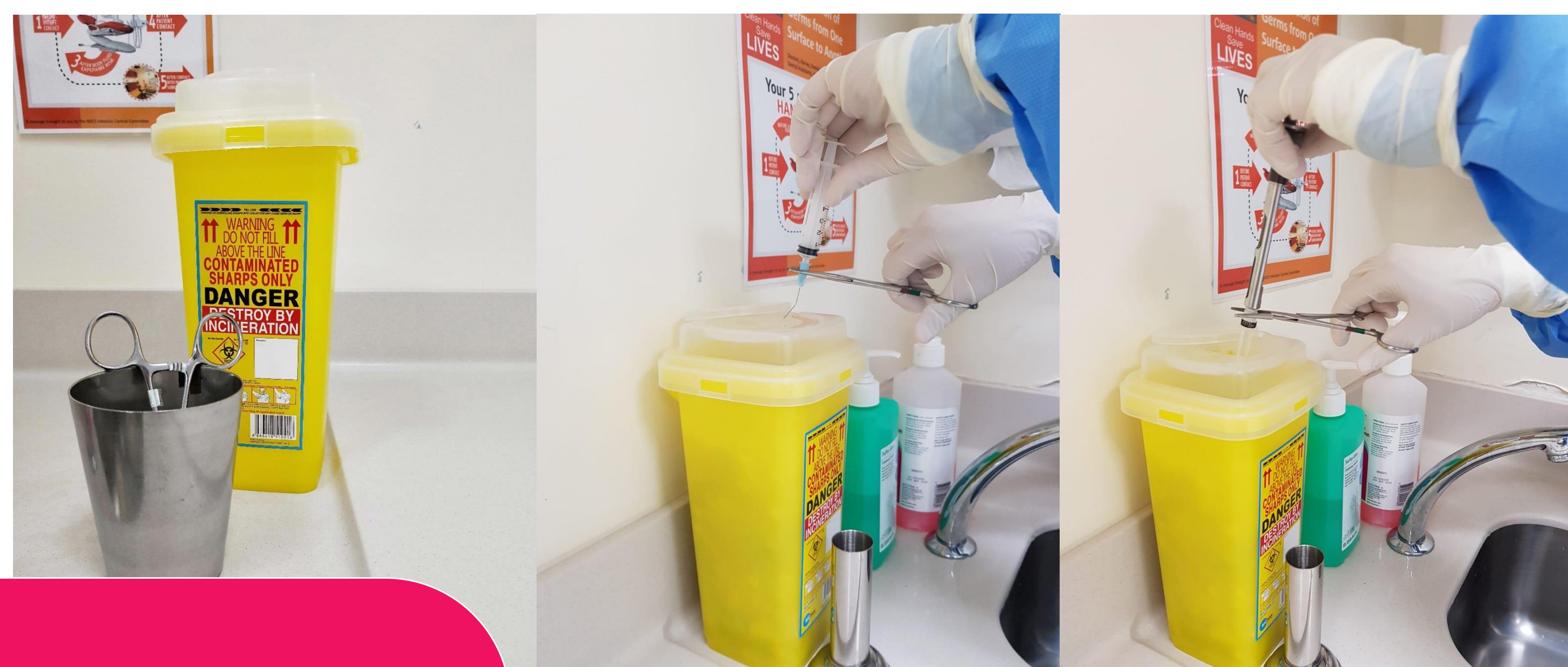
Objectives

Our team target on **ZERO** sharps injury.

Methodology

Project team conducted 5 why analysis to probe the root cause of recurring sharps injury among DSA, identified the root cause to be proper procedure not followed due to staff overlook.

The project team reviewed the on-going interventions and brainstormed additional interventions to instill awareness among DSAs.



Interventions

- Training for staff on how to handle and dispose sharps.
- Daily reminder in huddle meeting to be cautious when handling sharps.
- Regular checks in all rooms to ensure all rooms are equipped with tumbler and artery forceps to handle sharps disposal.
- Close monitoring of training / newly employed staff to ensure competency in handling sharps.
- [NEW Intervention] Includes hands on 'playback' demonstration for staff who've suffered sharps injury.

Conclusion

With regular reinforcement to the staff , we are able control the sharps injury to achieve lesser sharps injury after implanting the new intervention in Dec 2018.

The team will continue to monitor the effectiveness of the intervention and the strive to achieve the target of zero injuries

Results:

Number of sharps Injury per month for DSA

