

Sharpsmart:

Size and Location: Impact on Sharps Injuries

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“Compared to small portable Sharps Containers, use of the larger, safety-engineered Sharpsmart mounted on patient room walls can result in significantly fewer staff sustaining disposal-related SI annually. The Sharpsmart containers’ volume, large aperture, passive overfill protection, one-hand deposit and close-at-hand siting are postulated as contributing to the reduction in disposal-related Sharps Injuries ” - Authors

What was the study?

A 350-bed Sydney hospital was experiencing excessive Container-Associated Sharps Injuries (SI) with their use of a small sharps container.

The study **‘A 6-year, 3-phase study comparing use of a small patient-room sharps disposal container with a larger engineered container’** examined the impact of converting from a small patient room sharps container to the Daniels Sharpsmart reusable container.

Phase 1: Disposable 0.37Gallon containers were carried to/from patient rooms.

Phase 2: 8.5Gallon reusable Sharpsmart containers were mounted in med-rooms with sharps carried to/from patient rooms in dishes.

Phase 3: Sharpsmarts were wall-mounted in patient rooms.

What were the results?

Phase 1: (Non-Sharpsmart disposable containers)

- 19.4% of SI were container-related.

Phase 2: (Sharpsmarts in med-rooms)

- Container-Associated SI fell 94.9%
- Disposal related SI fell 71.1%
- Transport injuries rose

Phase 3: (Sharpsmarts in patient rooms)

- Container-Associated SI were zero
- Disposal related SI fell 83.1%
- Recapping SI fell 85.1%

What does this mean for you?

The study validates the necessity of the international recommendations that sharps be placed immediately after use into safety engineered Sharps Containers located close to the point of sharps generation.

Use of patient-room Sharpsmarts can significantly reduce Sharps Injuries.



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