

MINUTES
 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH/CLINICAL SAFETY COMMITTEE
 Wednesday, September 20, 2006

Members Present: Dr. Robert Adams (Chair), Ann Law, Jennifer Rees, Karen Doran, Susan Tadevich (EHS liaison)

Members Absent: Heather Morton, Dr. Enrique Platin, Marie Zeldin, Mike Proctor

New Members: Priscilla Stephens (School of Nursing)

Former Members: Martha Rojas, Nancy Ferguson, Dr. Tina Harris, Kathy Moore, Susan Pedersen

1. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Robert Adams.
2. Tadevich reported on workplace safety statistics reported as of June 21, 2006 through September 19, 2006.

Caught in, under, between	1
Cut, puncture, scrape	(scaler) 1
Cut, puncture, scrape: hand tool, utensil	(microtone) 1 (construction)
Fall, slip, trip	1
Fall, slip, trip: from liquid or grease spills	(wet floor) 1
Fall, slip, trip: stairs	1
Blood exposure: bite	1
Needlestick	6
Blood exposure: splash	2
Blood exposure: scalpel/equipment	7
Misc: Cumulative injury	1
Misc: TB	5
Misc: Other	17
Stain: Lifting	1
Repetitive Motion	3
Strain: Pushing/Pulling	1
Struck: Falling or flying object	1
Total	51

Note: Miscellaneous Other category was high due to a potential mumps exposure for several employees (10) in Campus Health Services, a potential exposure to Pertussis for several employees (4); 2 ring worm exposures and 1 reaction to an immunization.

Blood Exposures by scalpels or equipment were second highest number of incidences occurring mostly in the School of Dentistry.

As proposed in the last meeting, Law provided a review of the Needlesticks for the year to date. The trend has not changed as the highest rate of needlesticks is still found primarily with the physicians in surgery, followed by dentists and dental assistants. Rees offered one area that may benefit from a discussion on training: Catheterization lab where the Attendings should offer more instruction to the Fellows on accessing the groin area. Tadevich will follow up with Sheryl Booth, Lab Manager. Further, Law reviewed a current issue for employees and the after hours needlestick coverage. Employees are to call HealthLink and a Hospitalist is to provide the services. One physician was routed incorrectly and notified UEOHC the next morning. Law to follow up with Dr. Boehlecke on this program. Lastly, Tadevich offered comparing UNC trends with other campuses around the nation of a similar structure that includes DOM, SON, SOD, School of Pharmacy, etc. as well as a full functioning Hospital.

Law provided an update on Tdap vaccine and Mumps. To date, the protocol for Mumps prevention is still being followed. All healthcare workers either:

- a. Have written documentation of the disease
- b. Have documentation of positive serology or be offered a titer check
- c. Have received two doses of the MMR vaccine unless contraindicated
- d. Individuals born before 1957, and assumed immune prior to the recent outbreak, must either demonstrate positive serology or receive two doses of the MMR vaccine.

Tdap, once supply is available again, will also continue to be offered. Rees suggested a notice be included with the TB Individual Compliance Reports that alerts employees when outbreaks occur. Tadevich will compose a letter regarding the mumps and Tdap immunizations and distribute among the committee members for review.

3. Tadevich again reviewed the approval by the USSC to change the Tuberculosis Testing Policy and stated under the new policy, it will be strongly recommended that all healthcare workers receive an annual TST, EHS/UEOHC will continue to charge departments for annual TSTs for their healthcare workers even if they do not participate, and EHS will continue to send out annual notices to employee when they are due. The USSC was assured that units who wish to keep annual TSTs mandatory may do so. This policy will not preclude a stricter policy for a School, Department or employee. Tadevich offered to look into changing the format of the Individual Compliance notices.
4. Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 17th, 2007 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. in the Campus Health Services building.