

MINUTES  
 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH/CLINICAL SAFETY COMMITTEE  
 Wednesday, January 24, 2007

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

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

New Members: Michele Clark (Radiology), Holly Faillace (Aging Program)

1. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Robert Adams.
2. New members were introduced.
3. Tadevich reported on workplace safety statistics reported as of September 20, 2006 through January 22, 2007.

Nature of Injury/Incident	Total
Cut, puncture, scrape	1
Cut, puncture, scrape – hand tool	1
Fall, slip trip – same level	1
Fall, slip, trip – wet ground, dog attack	3
Absorption, ingestion, inhalation	1 – unknown fumes outside
Blood exposure - bite	1 - TEACCH
Blood exposure - needlestick	23
Blood exposure – scalpel/equip	5
Blood exposure - splash	4
Foreign matter in eye	2 – formaldehyde; outside debris
Misc. other	3 – +TB; pertussis; daycare
TB exposures	5
MVA – client transport	1-TEACCH
Rubbed or abraded	1-aluminum oxide exposure
Carple Tunnel Strain	4
Striking against stationary object	1-hit hand on door frame
Striking against	1-hit head on cabinet door
Struck by object handled by others	1-hit printer while passing by
Struck or injured by animal or insect	1-dog bite @ home study visit

*Needlesticks* were the highest type of injury this past quarter, continuing with the same trend as the highest rate still found primarily with the physicians in surgery, followed by dentists and dental assistants, as reported by Law. Law added that several dental incidences occur during cleanup when a tray of tools is left with instruments incorrectly placed back in the cassette and the ends of the explorer and/or scaler have gone through the ventilation holes. Tadevich will be posting

our trends on the CSHEMA listserv for comparison with other Universities and will report on any responses at the next meeting.

Law reported that Family Practice will be responding to after hour needlesticks for both the Hospital as well as the University. Required paperwork for both entities has been standardized and should help streamline the process.

4. Committee would like to go forward in combining the status information reported by the Department of Environment, Health and Safety in the individual OSHA/JCAHO Tuberculosis Compliance notices with the status information reported in the Medical Surveillance letters in one notice sent out to employees. Tadevich will bring this request to the EHS department and report on response at next meeting. Clark will email to Tadevich her sample letters that she generates within her department as a template.
5. Compliance rates were discussed regarding the Department of Medicine. Dr. Furman agreed to improve compliance rates for TB skin tests and immunization reviews upon the USSC approval for changing the policy (see meeting minutes 06/21/2006). Currently Dr. Furman received permission to hire two people to help with the credentialing process for current employees and should begin this work in March, 2007. However, the contact in DOM for new employees left the position in July of 2006 and the replacement has not been identified. The Committee composed a plan to address these issues:
  - a. Will conduct an initial review of the compliance rates for all departments and prioritize a list of those with the highest rate of non-compliance.
  - b. Tadevich will try to determine who is reviewing the rates for new employees of DOM
  - c. The Committee is prepared to generate a letter of concern addressed to Dr. Furman (cc: Carolyn Efland) for those departments in non-compliance.
6. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 11th, 2007 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. in the Campus Health Services, Counseling and Wellness Services Office, Room 233.