

Platypus[®] Needle Guard for AV Fistula Needles

Key Findings for Apheresis Trials

Trial Background

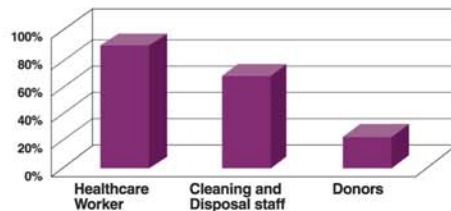
"Sharps" injury in the Australian Healthcare Industry is alarmingly high worldwide.

Clinical trials of the Platypus[®] were conducted in the **Apheresis unit of the Victorian Red Cross Blood Transfusion Services (BTS)** for one week in March 1997. Similar trials with extremely positive results have been conducted in Sydney, Adelaide, Perth, Brisbane, and in Europe.

AV Fistula Needle Protector

The Platypus[®] offers extra safety. 89% of the respondents stated that the Platypus[®] would further enhance their safety, and 67% agreed it would further enhance the safety of cleaning staff and waste disposal staff. At the same time 22% felt that donors safety would be enhanced.

Platypus[®] Provides Additional Protection for:



Other results indicate that the Platypus[®]:

- Provides a safer disposal system (71%)
- Prevents potential of needlestick injury on withdrawal (69%)

Pre-Assembled on Needle Sets

The trial clearly shows a preference to have the Platypus[®] pre-assembled on the manufacturer's AV Fistula needle sets:

88% of respondents stated that manufacturers of the Platypus[®] should incorporate it as a standard feature on their products.

Incidence of Needlestick Injury

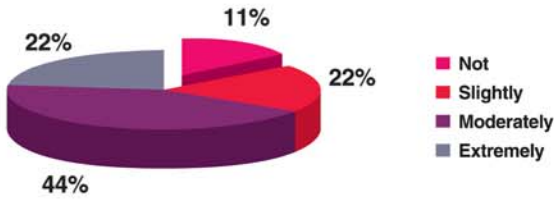
The Platypus[®] trial confirmed the view of previous surveys that the incidence of needlestick injury is high. 33% of the respondents have received one or more needlestick injuries in the last 3 years.

It is also surprising to find that none of the healthcare workers know the incidence of donors infected by blood borne diseases such as HIV, Hepatitis, etc.

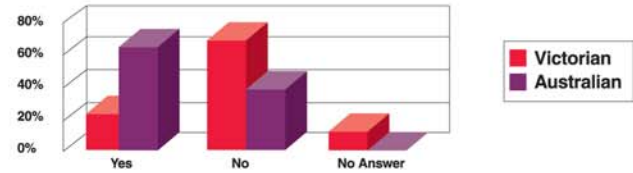
Needlestick injury in the last three years



Level of concern with working with infected doctors



Anxious of possibility of being infected



It is not surprising that 89% of those who answered are concerned about the possibility of being infected as a result of a needlestick injury.

Apart from the level of concern, further safety is needed as 33% felt that current procedures for protecting against needlestick injury are not adequate.

The Product and Performance

The trial has shown many positive results for the Platypus[®] and the safety it offers. The responses indicate the Platypus[®]:

- Does not cause problems with blood flow (89%)
- Shields the needle immediately when it is withdrawn (72%)
- Does not cause problems for apheresis (67%)

In addition to the above results:

- 75% stated that the Platypus[®] does not prevent adjustment to increase blood flow
- 61% stated that the Platypus[®] meets the requirements of intended use
- 61% stated that the Platypus[®] was easy to assemble
- 81% stated that the Platypus[®] was easy to dispose

Comfort

In addition to ease of use, comfort for both healthcare workers and donors is also considered an important factor of the Platypus[®]. Results indicate the Platypus[®] design meets the requirements for comfort:

- Is physically comfortable in the operators hand (61%)
- Does not cause discomfort for donor (67%)
- Sits comfortably on donor's arm (61%)
- Does not bump the needle hub (81%)

Conclusion

The trial shows the Platypus[®]:

- will enhance safety and protection
- is effective in shielding the needle immediately after collection and during disposal
- should be pre-assembled as a standard feature on needle sets

Engaged Position



Locked Position



For information please contact



email: sales@itlcorporation.com
www.itlcorporation.com

Head Office:

ITL Corporation Pty Ltd
 PO Box 139, Fyshwick
 Canberra 2609
 AUSTRALIA

Ph: +(61) 2 6280 8535
 Fax: +(61) 2 6280 8538

Asia/Pacific Representative:

ITL Asia Pacific Sdn Bhd
 Ipoh
 Perak 31500
 MALAYSIA

Ph: +(60) 5 321 7586
 Fax: +(60) 5 321 7498

European Representative:

ITL Europe Ltd
 14-20 Shirley Rd
 Southampton
 SO15 3EU
 UNITED KINGDOM

Ph: +(44) 2380 336 393
 Fax: +(44) 2380 336 377

North American Representative:

ITL NA Inc
 Suite 350
 1175 Herndon Parkway
 Herndon VA 20170
 UNITED STATES

Ph: +(1) 703 435 6700
 Fax: +(1) 703 435 6717