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Factors Associated with Non-reporting of Needle Stick Injuries and Patients' Body Fluid Exposure Among Clinical-year Medical Students

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Introduction: There were several studies and observational reports of under-reporting of healthcare associated injuries among healthcare personnel especially medical students. These led to substandard in medical practice and adverse complications.

Objective: The present study aimed to explore the reasons and factors associated for non-reporting of needles stick injuries (NSI) or patient's body substance exposure among clinical medical students.

Method: Five hundred and fifty four clinical medical students at Siriraj Hospital, University Hospital, were enrolled to self-administered questionnaires comprising personal data. Data were analyzed for the incidences and factors associated with reporting and non-reporting the incident of needles stick injuries and patient's body fluids exposure.

Results:



Table 1 Rates of NSIs among medical undergraduate students and reporting rates

NSIs	Non-reporting	Reporting	P-value
Needle stick injury	16	38	0.02
Sharps injury	0	4	
Other medical devices	6	3	
Body Fluid	30	34	
Others	0	4	
Total	52	83	

Table 2 Reasons for non-reporting

Reasons	n	%
Injury was superficial	42	39.25
Patient was not infectious	20	18.69
thinking that have immune	6	5.61
Ignorance of the system of reporting	9	8.41
Do not know where to report it	11	10.28
No time (for example, during an operation)	14	13.08
Others	5	4.68

Conclusion: The most important factor associated of reporting or non-reporting was medical students concern of being infected. This reason factor was inappropriate for medical practice decision. The safety guidelines for management of injury during medical practice needed to be implemented and clarified in all medical students. Further study after implement guideline should be monitored.