



# Pan American Health Organization



*Regional Office of the*  
World Health Organization

<http://www.paho.org>

## Healthy Hospitals Project: International Collaboration to Protect Healthcare Workers from Infectious Disease Transmission

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# The Healthy Hospitals Project: Protecting Healthcare Workers and Patients from Infectious Diseases



**PICNet** PROVINCIAL INFECTION CONTROL NETWORK OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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1- University of British Columbia; 2- Pan-American Health Organization – Washington; 3- PAHO– Quito  
4- Vancouver General Hospital; 5- Ministry of Public Health of Ecuador; 6- Hospital Baca Ortiz – Quito

# Background

- 1.4 million people worldwide experience nosocomial infections<sup>1</sup>
- Healthcare workers at increased risk of exposure to:
  - Blood-borne diseases<sup>2,3,4</sup>
  - Airborne diseases<sup>5, 6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Pittet & Donaldson 2006; <sup>2</sup>Romea et al. 1995; <sup>3</sup>Ciorlia & Zanetta 2005

<sup>4</sup>Pruss-Ustun et al. 2003; <sup>5</sup>Menzies et al. 2007; <sup>6</sup>Kilinc et al. 2002;;



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# % of Infections in Healthcare Workers due to Contaminated Sharps

	HCV	HBV	HIV
Amr A	8%	1%	0.5%
Amr B	55%	83%	11%
Amr D	52%	65%	7%

Amr A: Canada, Cuba, USA

Amr B: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guyana, Honduras, México, Panama, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela & Caribbean countries

Amr D: Bolivia, **Ecuador**, Guatemala, Haití, Nicaragua, Perú

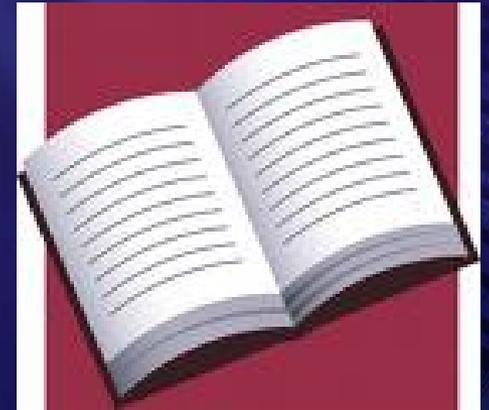


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Pruss- Ustun et al. 2003



**“It is time to close the  
book on infectious  
diseases ”**



**W.H. Stewart, USA  
Surgeon General, 1967**



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Provincial Infection Control Network - BC



# Ecuador: Healthy Hospitals Project

## Objectives

- 1) To **strengthen and/or implement OHS**;
- 2) To **assess occupational hazards** (focus on infectious diseases);
- 3) To **build human capacity** for preventing, and/or controlling, occupational risks;
- 4) To **foster international collaboration** for promoting and protecting health care workers' health.



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# Evaluation of Occupational Hazards

## Instruments

- *Audit tool* on occupational health and infection control
  - Adapted to each setting (11 units, 3 hospitals)
- *Surveys* on knowledge, practices and attitudes
  - Participants: diverse sample of health personnel



# Audit Results: Good Practices



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# Audit Results: Challenges



Resources



Recapping needles



Isolation Room

# Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices Survey

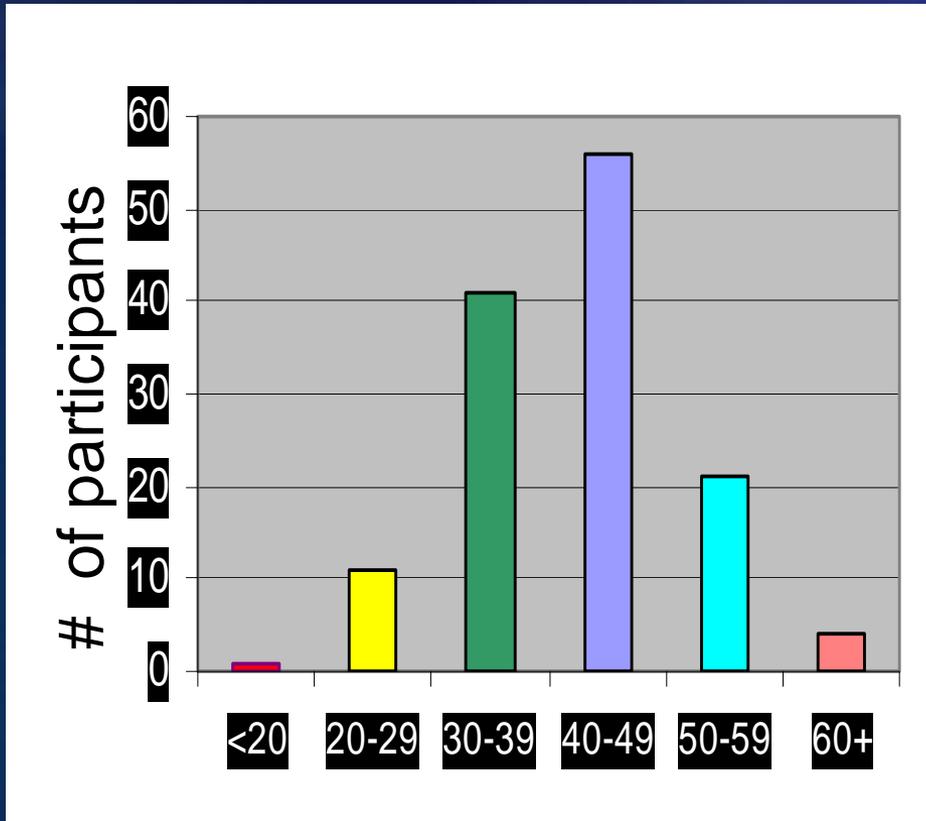


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# Demographic Characteristics

## Age and Gender



75% Women



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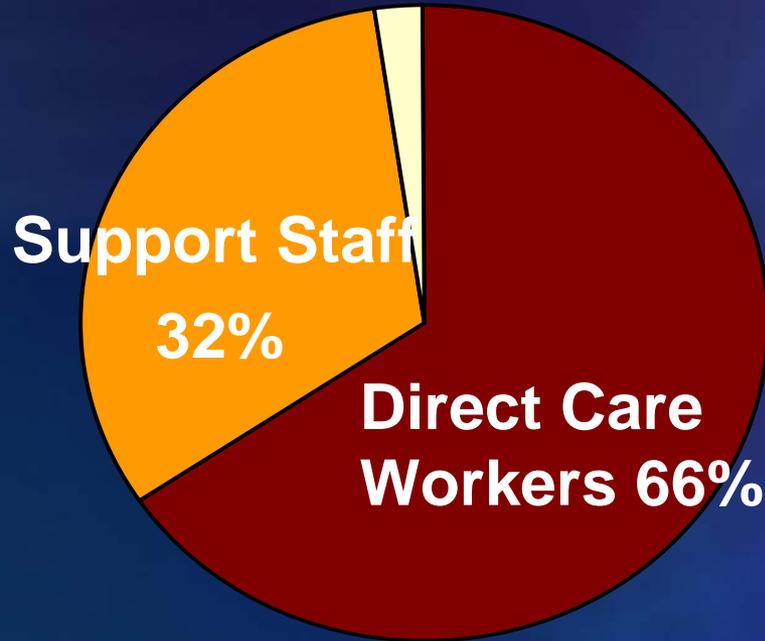


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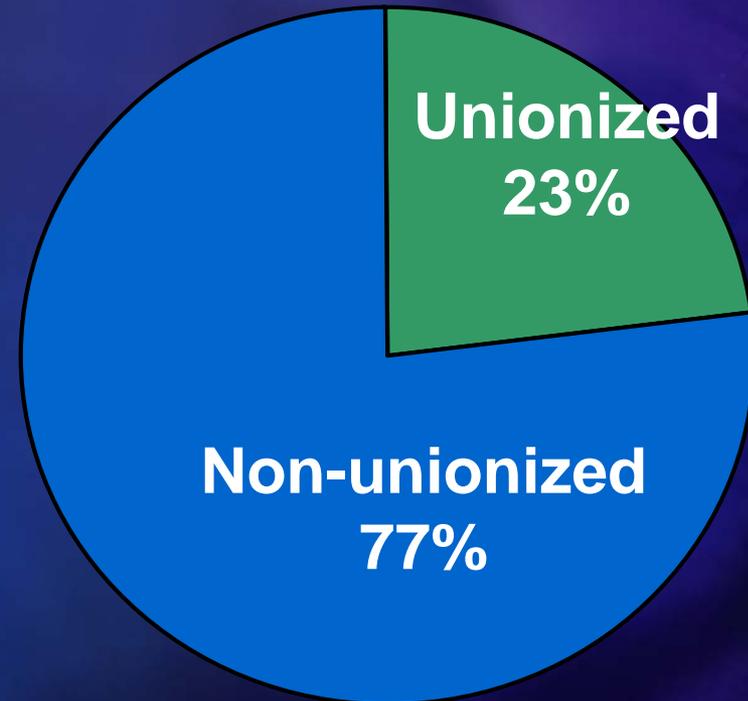


## Occupational Category

Not Available 2%



## Union Status



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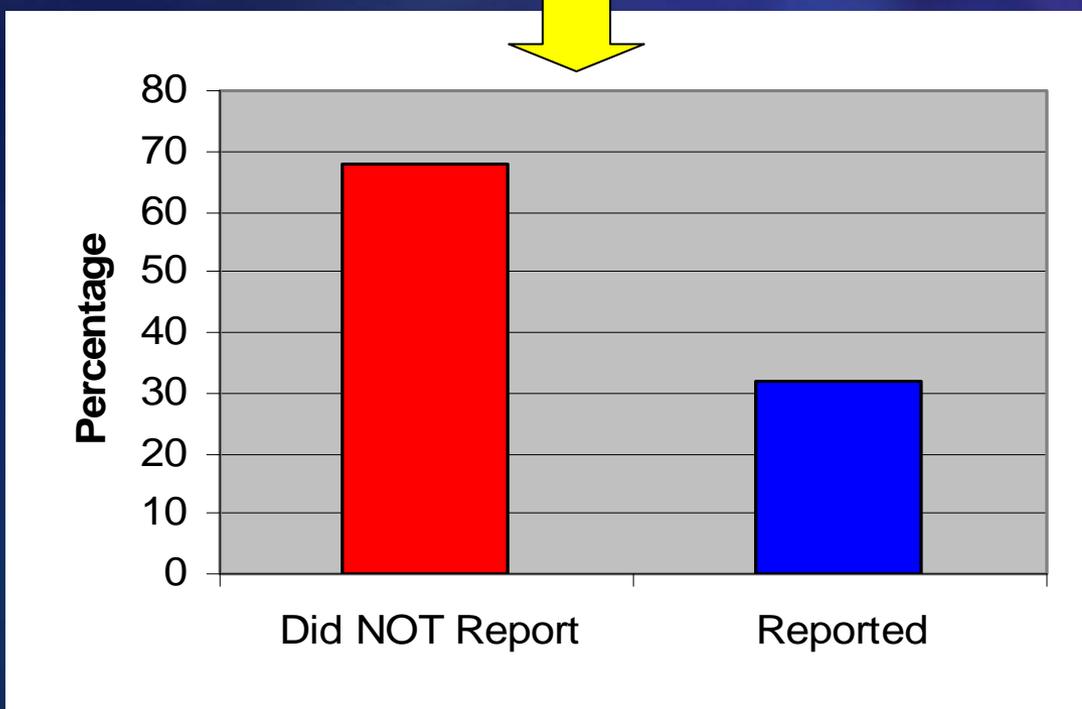


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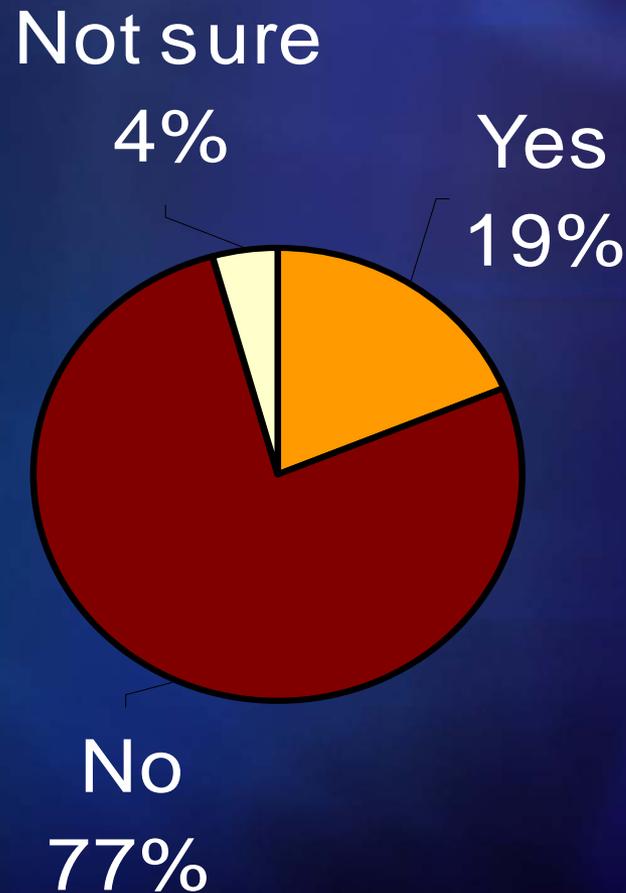


# Have you suffered from an injury at work in the last 2 years?

50% Answered "Yes"



# Did you receive an OHS Evaluation upon your hiring?



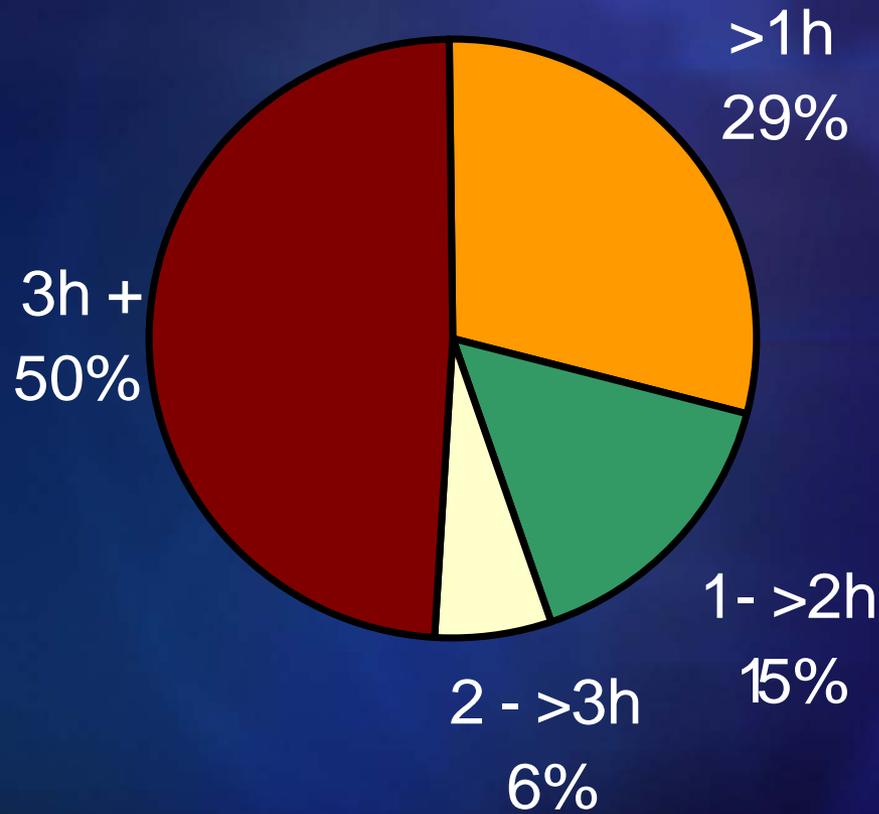
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# How many hours of OHS training did you receive?



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# Phase 2: Training Workshop

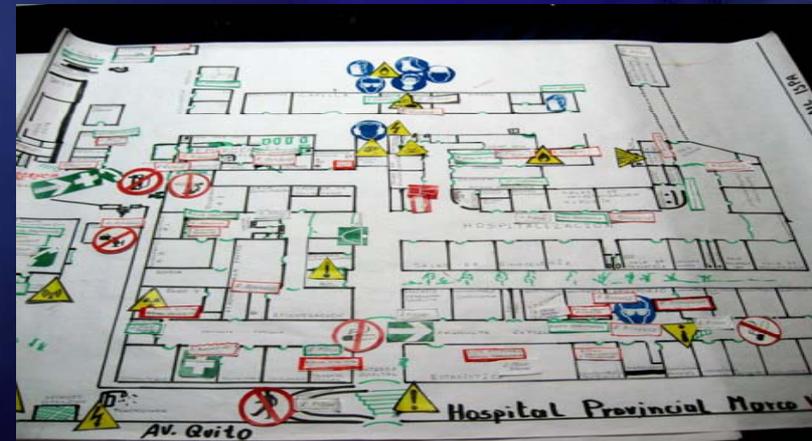
## Format

### – Problem-based learning

- Case-studies
- Risk map exercise
- Design of hospital-based projects

### – Presentations

- Universal precautions/Hierarchy of hazard controls
- Blood-borne and airborne diseases: prevention and control measures
- Risk assessment
- Surveillance
- Logical Framework



# Phase 3: Implementation of hospital-based projects

- Awareness campaigns
  - Needlestick injuries
  - Hand washing
- Training workshop
- Hospital-based micro-projects
  - Hepatitis B immunization program
  - Infection control program



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# Future Actions

- Continue to strengthen OHS committees
- Scale to other healthcare facilities
- Partner with academic institutions
- Built capacity on research methodology and program evaluation
- Development of OHS policies
- Integrate other occupational hazards



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LA GESTIÓN DE LA SALUD Y SEGURIDAD EN EL TRABAJO ASEGURA EMPLEADOS SALUDABLES, MOTIVADOS, Y MEJORA LA CALIDAD DE LOS SERVICIOS PRESTADOS

## HOSPITALES SALUDABLES

LOS TRABAJADORES DEL SECTOR SALUD ESTAN EXPUESTOS A RIESGOS LABORALES QUE AFECTAN SU SALUD

Biológicos • Químicos • Ambientales  
Psicosociales • Ergonómicos • Físicos

PROYECTO:  
"FORTALECIMIENTO DE LA GESTIÓN DE SALUD Y SEGURIDAD OCUPACIONALES EN LOS HOSPITALES DEL ECUADOR"

RESULTADOS:

- ELABORAR MAPAS DE RIESGO OCUPACIONALES
- FORTALECER LOS COMITES DE SALUD Y SEGURIDAD
- PROMOVER CAPACIDADES DE LAS PERSONAS PARA PREVENIR Y CONTROLAR LOS PROBLEMAS DE SALUD RELACIONADOS CON EL AMBIENTE HOSPITALARIO

INEOP

Thank you!



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