

Sharpsmart:

28% Waste Reduction

Authors Grimmond T, Himes E, and Skinner D

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“Sharpsmarts contribute significantly to healthcare waste reduction strategies.”

— Authors

What was the study?

The weight of disposable single-use sharps containers account for a significant portion of plastic in the sharps waste stream of healthcare facilities.

The Study **‘28% Waste Reduction with Sharpsmart Safety Device - a 5 year, 103 Hospital Study’** examined the impact of 103 hospitals converting from disposable sharps containers to a reusable sharps containment device (Sharpsmart) in terms of waste reduction and reduction in container exchange labour.

What were the results?

Conversion to the Daniels Sharpsmart system resulted in:

- 28% waste reduction
- Total waste reduced by 3.9 tonnes of waste per 100 beds per annum (3.5 tonnes of plastic and 0.4 tonnes of cardboard waste)
- 51% reduction in container exchange labour with the larger Sharpsmart collectors.

What does this mean for you?

This study demonstrates that substantial waste reduction opportunities exist for facilities by converting from disposable sharps containers to the reusable and more sustainable Daniels Sharpsmart.

The labour efficiencies of the Sharpsmart system provide opportunities to divert staff time from container exchange to other essential activities, reduce patient interruptions, and reduce injury through fewer container exchanges.



Data for this study was gathered on weights of the disposable sharps containers when empty, the quantity and weight of cardboard cartons in which the sharps containers arrived, and the average weight of sharps contents when containers were 75% full.





Thousands of people suffer the trauma of a sharps injury each year in South African healthcare facilities.

Daniels began its commitment to South African healthcare workers by forming a joint venture with leading medical waste treatment and disposal company, Compass Medical Waste Services (Pty) Ltd, to deliver a safer sharps management system.



www.compasswasteservices.co.za



customercom@compass.za.net



031 267 9700