



Bundesministerium  
für Arbeit und Soziales



# **Directive 2010/32/EU on the prevention of sharps injuries in the hospital and health care sector**

## **Implementation in Germany**

**Sabine Niemeyer, BMAS Bonn**



# Principles of the Directive

## **Objective:**

No injuries from sharp/pointed medical instruments

## **Requirements:**

### Integrated approach

- Cooperation between employers and employee representatives
- Risk assessment
- Risk prevention
  - Qualifications, training, instruction, information
  - Awareness raising
  - Achievement of a safe working environment
- Accident procedures
  - Medical care (post-exposure prophylaxis)
  - Reporting procedure – “no blame” culture – quality management



# Implementation in German law

## Integration into existing law:

- Ordinance on biological substances (implementation of Directive 2000/54/EC)
- Ordinance on preventive occupational medicine (vaccination)

## Content of the new ordinance on biological substances

- Integrated approach is generalised
- Clause for the health care sector with specific requirements relating to:
  - Disinfection measures
  - Handling or replacement of sharp/pointed medical instruments inc. ban on recapping
  - Disposal of sharp/pointed medical instruments
  - Accident procedures (accident reporting)

## Specific rules in the Technical Rules on Biological Agents (TRBA)

- TRBA 250 for health care and welfare facilities
- TRBA 400 for risk assessment



## Regulation in practice

Rules on preventing sharps injuries  
have already been included in TRBA 250 since 2006

**But the important point is:**

**What happens in practice?**

BMAS has therefore launched a study that we should like  
to tell you about. I shall therefore hand over to

**Ms Strahwald**

and thank you for listening!