

Project Title

Reduced Safety Inspection Findings Through Effective Safety Training

Project Lead and Members

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Organisation(s) Involved

SingHealth

Healthcare Family Group(s) Involved in this Project

Healthcare Administration

Applicable Specialty or Discipline

Operations

Project Period

Start date: 2018

Completed date: 2022

Aim(s)

- Build on established TRAINING programme
- Recognition and support from senior management
- Ensuring effective training

Background

See poster appended/ below

Methods

See poster appended/ below

Results

See poster appended/ below

Conclusion

See poster appended/ below

Project Category

Care & Process Redesign

Risk Management, Adverse Outcome Reduction

Keywords

Safety, Training, Workplace

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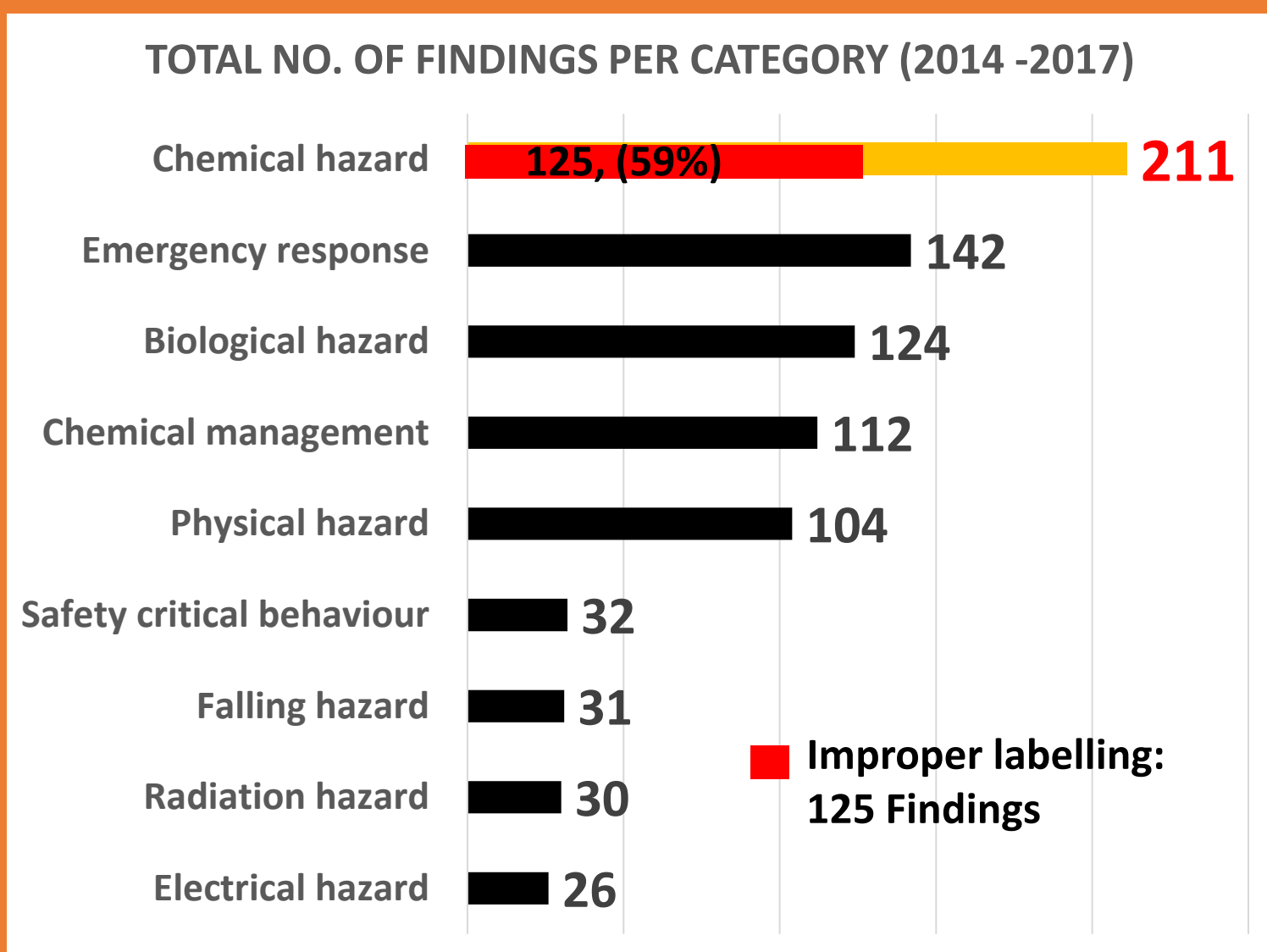


REDUCED SAFETY INSPECTION FINDINGS THROUGH EFFECTIVE SAFETY TRAINING

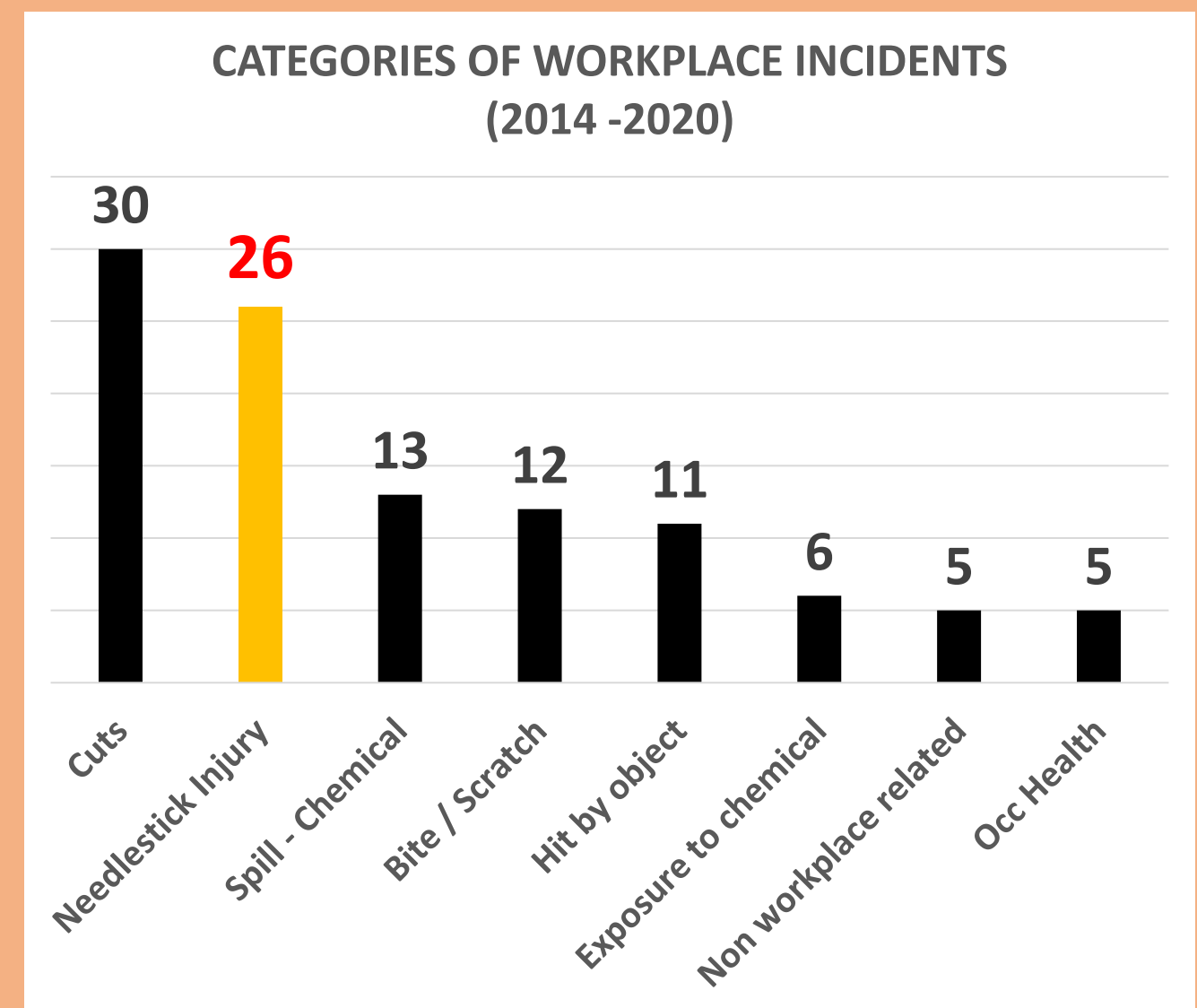
Singapore Healthcare Management 2023

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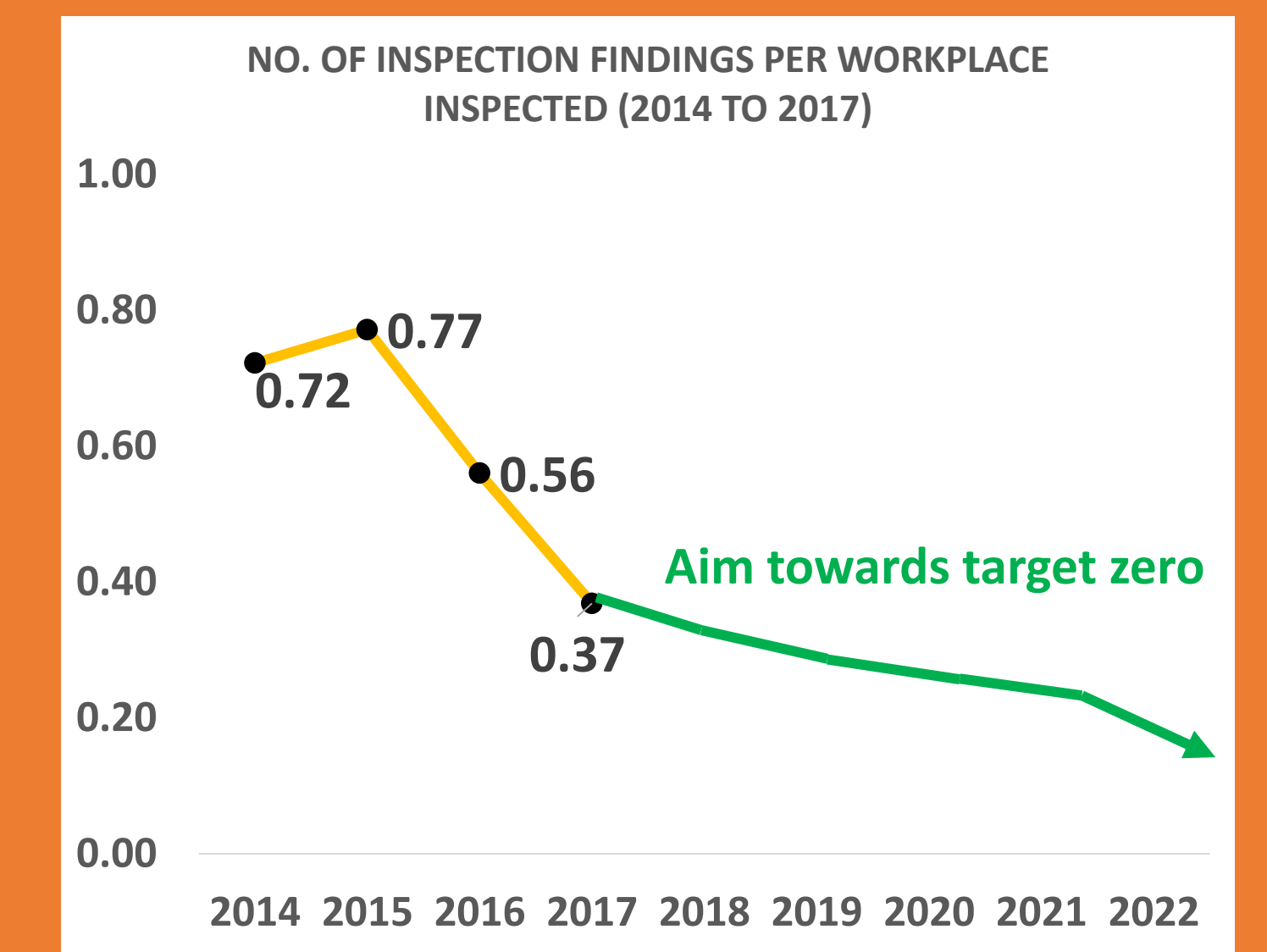
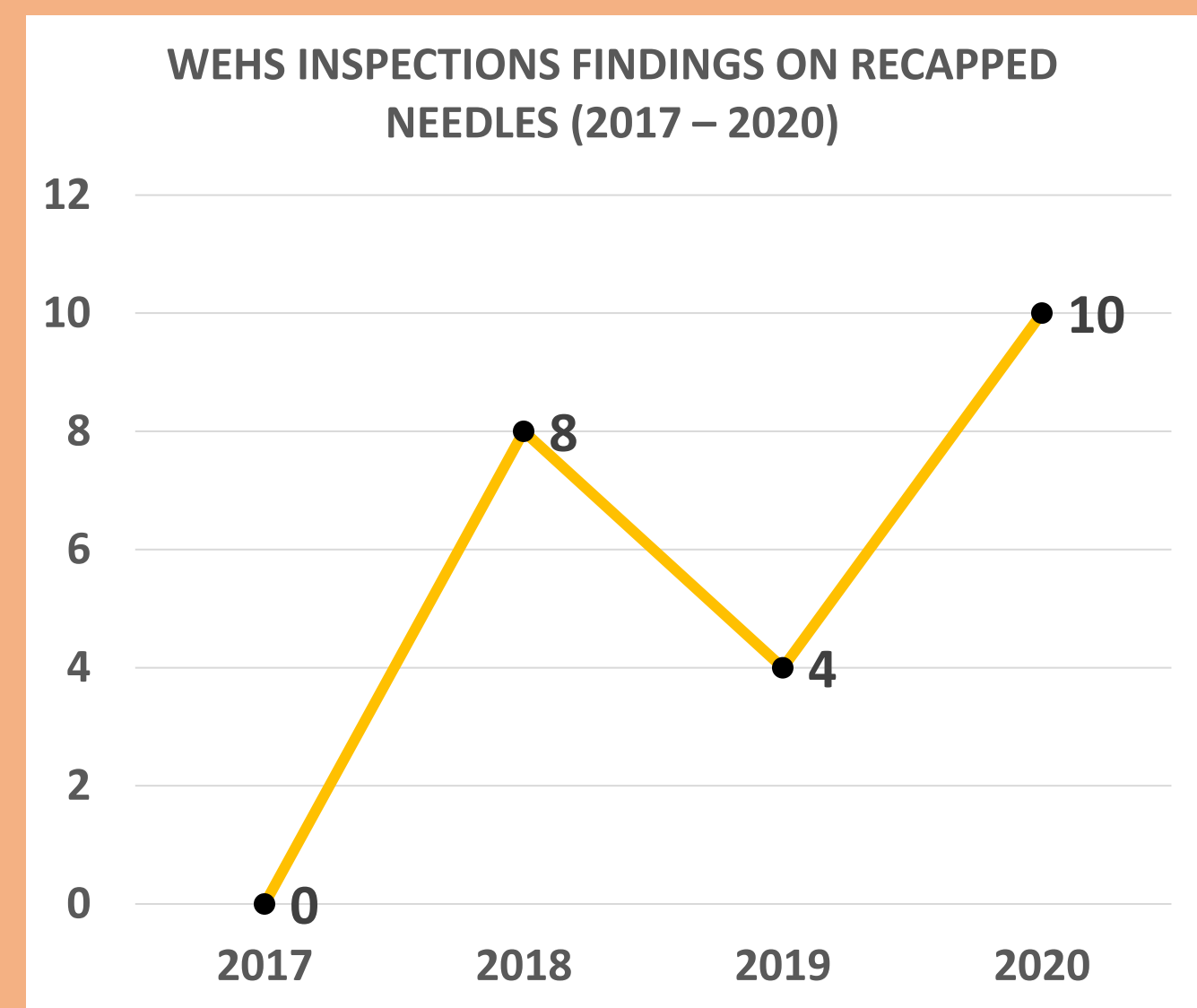
FINDING



Chemical Hazard:
Highest category of inspection finding since 2014 with improper labelling making up 59% of the Chemical Hazard findings.



Needle safety:
Needlestick injury (NSI) was one of the highest number of accumulated reported incident since 2014 (left chart). Significant number of recapped needles in sharps bin were also observed during WEHS inspections since 2018 (right chart).



Workplace safety performance:
OoB is constantly working towards ensuring a safe working environment realised through reduced inspection findings.

INTERVENTION

i. Build on established TRAINING programme

Core Lab safety training

- Fastest way to reach out to the research community and impart safety knowledge
- Improved medium of communication from physical classes to online platform available 24/7
- Develop new specialise programmes based on the needs of the workplace.

'Fundamentals of GHS Labelling' & 'Needle Safety in Research Laboratories' courses were developed in 2021 to educate the research community and address the safety concerns observed.

ii. Recognition and support from senior management

- ✓ Course incorporated into SingHealth research institutions' training policy and training matrix
- ✓ Compulsory Core Lab Safety training to be completed before commencement of work

iii. Ensuring effective training

- Develop competency through assessment with minimum 80% passing criteria to challenge the learners.
- Learners to complete Core Lab safety refresher training every 3 years
- Safety trainings contents are reviewed at least once every 3 years

RESULTS

- Increase level of safety awareness**
2900+ Researchers completed Core Lab safety training since 2017
- Reduced number of safety inspection findings**
50% Reduction in the number of workplace inspection findings

Start of enforcement of safety trainings

Year	Findings
2016	0.56
2017	0.37
2018	0.34
2019	0.41
2020	0.29
2021	0.22
2022	0.28

- Trainings well received by learners**
95% Satisfaction rating from learners who have completed the trainings

- Decreased Chemical Hazard findings**
31% Reduction in number of Chemical Hazard findings from 2018 - 2022

Downward trend on the number of improper labelling of chemicals

Year	Total Findings	Improper Labelling
2014	40	21
2015	66	34
2016	51	39
2017	46	31
2018	28	12
2019	47	23
2020	36	16
2021	21	10
2022	19	9

- Decline in number of Recapped Needles & reported NSI**

Reduction in number of Recapped needles

Period	Capped needles	Others
2018 - 2020 (n=453)	95%	5%
2021 - 2022 (n=200)	99%	1%

Decrease number of needlestick injuries reported as compared to before 2020

CONCLUSION

Safety trainings have proven effective and shown improvement in reducing the number of safety inspection findings over the years.

OoB will continue to monitor key safety concerns and feedbacks from researchers and cater dedicated safety trainings to promote safe work practices and environment to work in.