



# Injection Safety

Oneida Comprehensive  
Health Division

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# What is Injection Safety?

- ▶ It is the practice of using aseptic technique, along with one time, one vial, one needle, and one syringe when preparing injectables. This also includes point-of-care testing.
- ▶ It is a part of Standard Precautions and is aimed at sustaining basic levels of patient safety and provider protections.

## What is aseptic technique?

The use of various barriers and precautions to prevent the transfer of microorganisms from HCP and the environment to the patient during a procedure. It is used to **reduce** the likelihood of contamination from harmful pathogenic microorganisms.

*Sterile technique is used to have an environment free from all living microorganisms, good or bad.*





## Why have an safe injection program?

- To help protect the patient and you!
- To help prevent outbreaks of communicable diseases such as Hepatitis C.
- Believe it or not, there are health care professionals who do not have an understanding of or practice basic infection control practices:
  - 2011, in a WI outpatient clinic: 2,401 patients were notified of reuse of insulin pens on multiple patients after the pen tip needle was changed.
  - A survey of 5,500 U. S. healthcare professionals:
    - 1 percent “sometimes or always” reuse a syringe on a second patient
    - 1 percent “sometimes or always” reuse a multi-dose vial for other patients after it has been accessed by a used syringe



# One And Only Campaign

CDC collaborating with Safe Injection Practices Coalition to create and implement a campaign regarding injection safety

- ▶ *It is a public health effort to eliminate unsafe medication injections*
- ▶ It is the result of four large outbreaks caused by staff in various ambulatory clinics who reused syringes, needles IV fluids/supplies for multiple patients, and unclean prep areas
- ▶ *“One Needle, One Syringe, Only One Time”*

## HELP ENSURE PATIENT SAFETY.

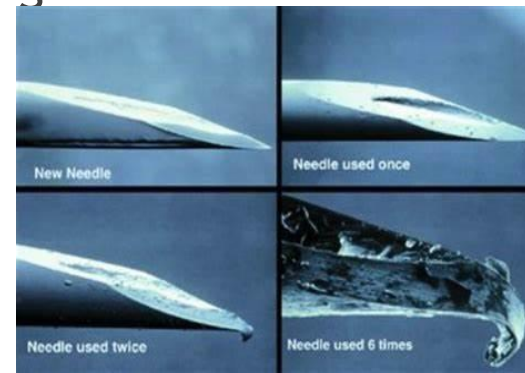
MAKE **EVERY INJECTION**  
A **SAFE ONE.**





# Safe Injection Practices

- ▶ Aseptic technique to avoid contamination of sterile injection equipment
- ▶ Use aseptic technique in all aspects of parenteral medication preparation, administration, medication vial use, injection, and point-of-care testing.
- ▶ Injections are prepared in a clean area free from contamination or contact with OPIM (other potentially infectious materials).
- ▶ The rubber septum on a medication vial is disinfected with alcohol prior to piercing.
- ▶ Medication vials are entered with a new needle and a new syringe, even when obtaining additional doses for the same patient.



# Safe injection practices cont...

- ▶ Do not administer medications from a syringe to multiple patients, even if the needle or cannula is changed.
- ▶ Use fluid infusion and administration sets (IV bags, tubing, connectors) for **ONE** patient only and dispose appropriately after use.
- ▶ Do not use bags or bottles of intravenous solution as a common source of supply for multiple patients.
- ▶ Use single-dose vials for parenteral medications whenever possible.



## ...and more Safe Injection Practices

- ▶ Do not administer medications from single-dose vials or ampules to multiple patients or combine leftover contents for later use.
- ▶ Needles and syringes are for one patient only (*even insulin pens and pre-filled syringes*).
- ▶ If multi-dose vials must be used, both the needle or cannula and syringe used to access the multi-dose vial must be sterile.
- ▶ Multi-dose vials are dedicated to individual patients whenever possible.



## And, lastly with safe injection practices:

- ▶ Do not keep multi-dose vials, even those used for more than one patient, in the immediate patient treatment area, but kept in a centralized medication area in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations; discard if sterility is compromised or questionable.
- ▶ Multi-dose vials are dated when they are first opened
- ▶ Multi-dose vials are discarded within 28 days, unless manufacturer specifies a different (shorter or longer) date for that opened vial.



Vial Opened \_\_\_\_\_

Vial Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Discard After 28 Days







For more  
information, click on  
the links below

- ▶ [CDC Injection Safety FAQs](#)
- ▶ [Injection Safety | CDC](#)
- ▶ [The One & Only Campaign | One and Only Campaign](#)
- ▶ [APIC Injection Safety Paper](#)

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Any questions? Please contact:

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