

# SAFE INJECTION PRACTICES:

By  
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Excellentia Advisory Group



## Safe Injection Practices

### Objectives:

The participant will be able to:

- Discuss bloodborne pathogen transmission due to unsafe injection practices
- Identify techniques of safe injection practices
- List behavior modification techniques

## Safe Injection Practices

1998-2014: more than 50 outbreaks

Transmission of HBV, HCV and bacterial pathogens to more than 700 patients

2001-2012: 150,000 patients received notification of exposure due to unsafe injection practices

## Safe Injection Practices

Bloodborne pathogen transmission due to:

- ❖ improper injection practice
- ❖ improper infusion practice
- ❖ improper medication vial access and utilization
- ❖ improper point-of-care testing

## Safe Injection Practices

Categories of unsafe injection practices:

- Syringe re-use between patients
- Contamination of medication vials or IV bags
- Failure to follow basic safe injection practices
- Inappropriate use of finger stick device/ glucometer

## Safe Injection Practices

Where are we dropping the ball?



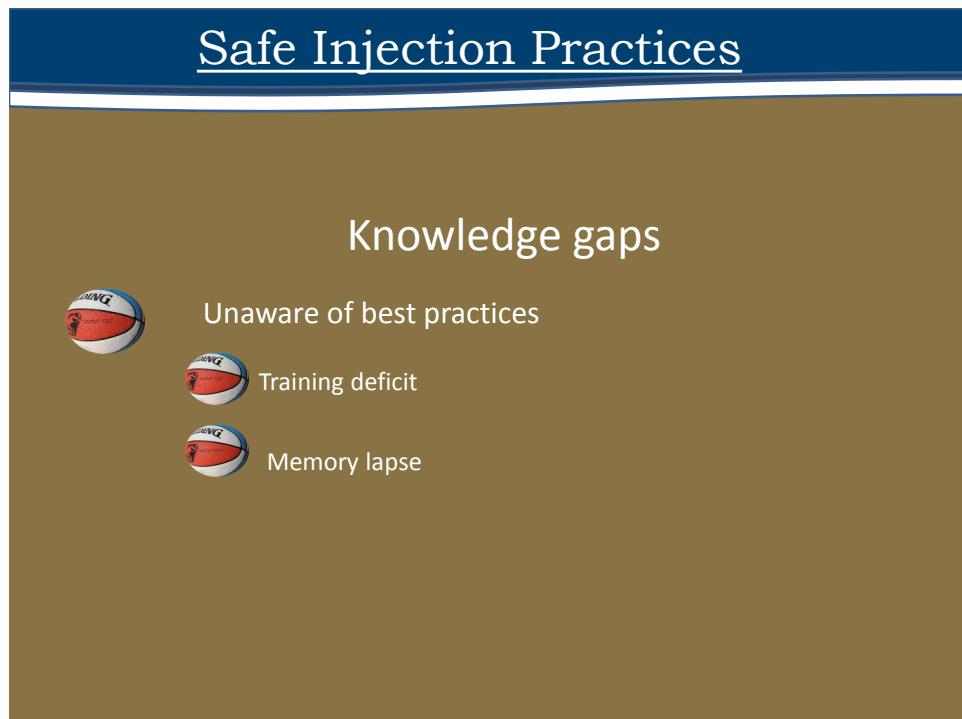
Knowledge gaps



Knowledge not being placed into practice



Intentional misuse or harm



## Safe Injection Practices

### Injection Safety

Does not harm the recipient, does not expose the provider to any avoidable risks, and does not result in waste that is dangerous for the community

Intended to prevent transmission of infectious diseases between one patient and another or between a patient and HCW and to prevent needlestick injuries

## Safe Injection Practices

### WHAT IS ASEPTIC TECHNIQUE?

- Handling, preparation, and storage of medications and all supplies used for injections and infusions—e.g., syringes, needles, intravenous (IV) tubing—in a manner that prevents microbial contamination
- Medications should be drawn up in a designated “clean” medication preparation area
  - item that could have come in contact with blood or body fluids should be kept separate



## Safe Injection Practices

### Aseptic Technique:

- perform hand hygiene before accessing supplies
- use a mask to contain respiratory droplets when preparing and injecting solution into spine or intracapsular space (joint)
- avoid non-sterile contact with sterile areas of containers, drugs
- never store needles and syringes unwrapped as sterility cannot be ensured
- place only pre-filled flush syringes that are terminally sterilized by the manufacturer AFTER packaging onto a sterile field immediately after opening
- never place items sterilized by manufacturers BEFORE final packaging onto a sterile field
- disinfect rubber stopper of medication vials and the neck of glass ampoules with sterile 70% alcohol
- disinfect catheter hubs, needleless connectors and injection ports before accessing
  - change disinfecting port protectors per manufacturer recommendations
  - allow adequate dry time before entry
- never pool left over medications for later administration
- Do not use prefilled syringes to further dilute medication for administration

## Safe Injection Practices

### Transporting medications:

- Discourage transporting of medication filled syringes/ needles in pockets or clothing

### IV Solutions:

- Use for only 1 patient
- Use needleless spiking devices to remove fluid from IV bags and vials for use for only 1 patient
- Never use a bag of IV solution for more than 1 patient
- Use needle free systems for all aspects of parenteral medication administration

### Flushing:

- Use single use containers for flush solutions
- If a multi-dose vial must be used, use it for only 1 patient and then discard.
- Use a new, unused sterile needle and syringe for each entry into the vial

## Safe Injection Practices

- Draw up medications into a syringe as close to administration time as feasible. Inject within 1 hour after drawing up the medication
- Inspect all vials for particulate matter, discoloration or turbidity. – Discard immediately
- Store vials with same colored labels and/ or same medication with different dosages separately
- Never leave a device in the septum of a medication vial for multiple medication draws
- Use a filter needle to draw medications from an ampoule
- Discard any vials that were used to draw 2 or more medications into a single syringe

## Safe Injection Practices

### Drug Diversion:

- Institute drug diversion monitoring systems and security measures to assist in averting and/ or identifying diversion activity
- CDC defines an appropriate response to a drug diversion event as including “assessment of harm to patients, consultation with public health officials when tampering with injectable medications is suspected, and prompt reporting to enforcement agencies

## Safe Injection Practices

Liquid medication intended for parenteral administration

### Single Dose Vial

- Use in a single patient/ single use
- Labeled as single use by the manufacturer
- Lack antimicrobial preservatives

### Multi Dose Vial

- More than 1 dose
- Labeled as multi-dose by the manufacturer
- Contain antimicrobial preservative to help prevent growth of bacteria
- Preservative has no effect on viruses
- Does not protect against contamination

## Safe Injection Practices

What does single dose/ single use mean?

- Single patient/ single case/ single procedure/ single injection
- Even if it appears to contain more than one “single” dose....
  - cannot be used for more than 1 patient

**AND**

- cannot be stored for future use on the SAME patient

## Safe Injection Practices

### What does single dose/ single use mean?

- Should only be entered one time to prevent inadvertent contamination of contents
- Exception: if drawing entire contents into a single syringe will not allow for safe and accurate titration of dose (pediatric) during surgery
  - MUST be NEW needle and syringe
  - Vial MUST be discarded at end of procedure

## Safe Injection Practices

### What does single dose/ single use mean?

- Leftover medication may not be combined/ pooled for later use
- Vial must be discarded according to the time the manufacturer specifies for the opened vial or at the end of a case/procedure for which it is being used, whichever comes first

## Safe Injection Practices

### What does Multi dose/ Multi use mean?

- Should be dedicated to a single patient whenever possible
- If it must be used for more than one patient
  - Cannot be ACCESSED or KEPT in immediate patient treatment area
    - Prevents cross-contamination through direct or indirect contact with contaminated surfaces or equipment

## Safe Injection Practices

### When should parenteral medications be discarded?

#### Single dose

- If opened or accessed
- If NOT opened/ accessed: per manufacturer's expiration date

#### Multi dose

- If opened/ accessed:
  - Dated and discarded in 28 days unless manufacturer specifies different (shorter/ longer) date
  - Known as BEYOND USE DATE
    - Can NOT exceed manufacturer original expiration date
- If NOT opened/ accessed:
  - Per manufacturer's expiration date

## Safe Injection Practices

### Knowledge not being placed into practice



Incomplete understanding



Supplies unavailable



Too busy



Lackadaisical/ laissez-faire attitude

## Safe Injection Practices

### Point-of-care testing:

- Single-use, auto-retracting lancing devices for each patient
- Blood glucose meters used for more than 1 patient must be labeled by the manufacturer for multiple patient use and include adequate instructions for disinfection of the meter between patients.
- Clean visible blood and dirt from meters before disinfecting
- Use an EPA approved disinfectant and follow manufacturer's contact time
- Provide training and oversight for HCP

## Safe Injection Practices

- Acceptable to store an UNOPENED MDV inside of an anesthesia cart or the OR.
  - Emergency medication
    - Once opened/ accessed in patient care area: vial is dedicated to use with that patient ONLY
    - Any UNUSED medication must be discarded

## Safe Injection Practices

What is an immediate treatment area?

CDC and WHO guidelines and CMS requirements state:

“Operating room, procedure room, and patient examination areas/ bays”

## Safe Injection Practices

Medications drawn up in a space separate from the immediate patient treatment area:

- Acceptable to SECURELY store LABELED syringe for up to 1 hour
  - Label must include date/ time drawn, initials of HCW preparing syringe, name of medication, strength of medication

## Safe Injection Practices

- Pathogens including HBV, HCV, HIV can be present in sufficient quantities to produce infection in the absence of visible blood
- Bacteria/ fungus/ virus/ parasites and other microbes can be present without clouding or other visible evidence of contamination

## Safe Injection Practices

### Strategies:

- Hand hygiene: # 1 approach to prevent cross-contamination and infections
- 1 syringe, 1 needle, 1 patient
- Use an alcohol prep pad
- Do not leave a device inserted into the septum of a vial for multiple medication draws



## Safe Injection Practices

### Medication Reconstitution

- ASEPTIC technique must be followed
- Performed in DESIGNATED CLEAN medication area
  - No adjacent to areas potentially contaminated
    - Sinks
    - Specimens
    - Glucometer
    - Sharps disposal
    - Waste disposal

## Safe Injection Practices

### USP 797 - Compounding

- USP <797> : Low risk conditions
- Compounding involves only transfer, measuring, and mixing manipulations using not more than 3 commercially manufactured packages of sterile products and not more than 2 entries into any one sterile container/ package

## Safe Injection Practices

### Reuse of syringe/ needle for same patient

- **ALWAYS** enter medication vial with a sterile needle/ syringe even when obtaining additional doses for the same patient

## Safe Injection Practices

Reuse of syringe/ needle for same patient

- **ALWAYS** use a needle/ syringe only once when administering medications to a single patient
- Exception: administration of incremental doses to a single patient is an integral part of the procedure
  - **STRICT** adherence to aseptic technique
  - Syringe can never be left unattended

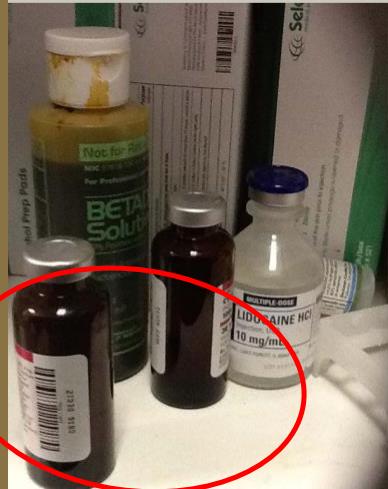
## Safe Injection Practices

What is wrong with this picture?



## Safe Injection Practices

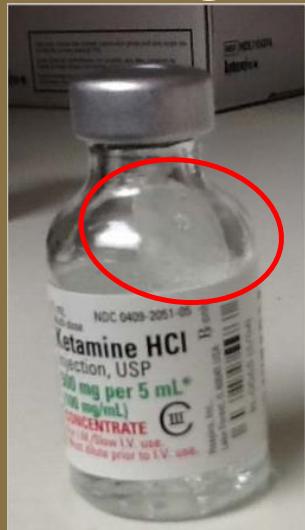
What is wrong with this picture?



Open MDV, no date, initials

## Safe Injection Practices

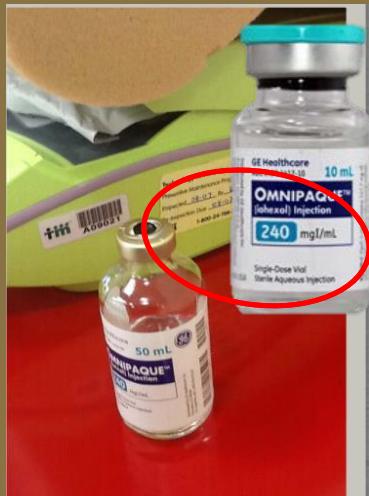
What is wrong with this picture?



Some type of  
unknown particulate  
adhering to inside of  
vial

## Safe Injection Practices

What is wrong with this picture?



Open, Single dose vial  
in medication room

## Safe Injection Practices



Unlabeled  
syringes

[http://www.nj.com/salem/index.ssf/2015/07/children\\_got\\_wrong\\_immunizations\\_including\\_cervical.html](http://www.nj.com/salem/index.ssf/2015/07/children_got_wrong_immunizations_including_cervical.html)

## Safe Injection Practices



## Safe Injection Practices

### INTENTIONAL misuse or harm



Using same syringe to administer medication to more than one patient



Accessing a medication vial/ bag with a syringe that has already been used to administer medication to a patient, then reusing contents from that vial/ bag for another patient

## Safe Injection Practices

### How can we make a difference?



Education



Perform assessment of adherence



Re-education



Perform quality measurement



Perform re-assessment of adherence

## Safe Injection Practices

### KEEP IT CLEAN 6 Hand Hygiene Tips for Anesthetists

**1 Make disinfection easier.** To make it as easy as possible to thoroughly wipe down anesthesia machines between patients, mount disinfectant wipes on each machine so that your anesthesia providers can clean surface areas, knobs and dials [WT add: Also mount foaming hand sanitizer]

**2 Plan ahead.** Try to have all supplies you might use out and on the anesthesia machine before the case starts, and treat the anesthesia machine as a contaminated area. If you have to go back to the cart during the case, make sure you remove your gloves and foam your hands.

**3 Diligently wear gloves.** A lot of breaches occur in this area. Providers are well aware that they need to wear them, but the gloves often come off for one reason or another. To the greatest extent possible — and it isn't always possible — switch to clean gloves every time you deal with a new domain.

**4 Beware of the glove box.** Most facilities have glove boxes with disposable gloves available to the anesthesia provider. But unless care is taken, every time you reach in to get a fresh pair, you may contaminate both the gloves you're about to put on and the other gloves in the box.

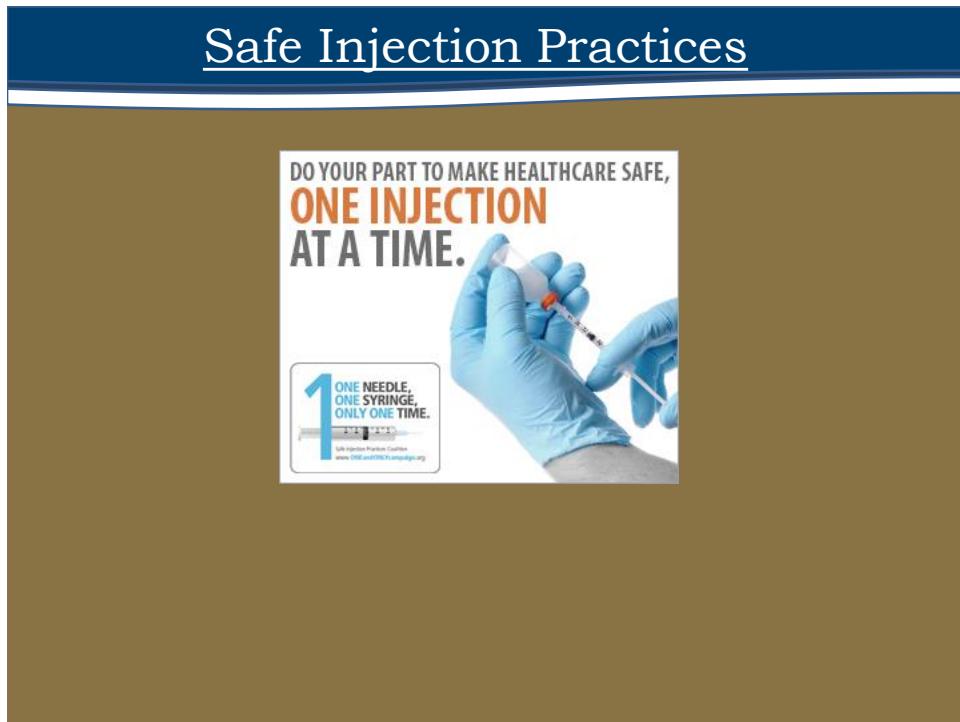
**5 Double-glove during airway management.** Once the airway is secure, take the outer pair off.

**6 Educate.** We regularly go through all kinds of educational modules to maintain privileges — modules having to do with harassment, fire safety, and trips and falls — but I've never seen one on the risks of diseases or transmission of pathogens in the workplace. It's been shown that a sophisticated campaign aimed at maintaining hand hygiene among anesthesia providers can lead to a reduction of surgical site infections, and maybe even a reduction in mortality.

*Outpatient Surgery December 2015 — Clarence J. Bidell, CRNA, PhD*

"Recommendations for Infection Control for the Practice of Anesthesiology  
(Third Edition)"

[https://asahq.org/~/media/sites/asahq/files/public/resources/asa%20committees/recommendations-for-infectioncontrol-for-the-practice-of-anesthesiology-\(1\).pdf?la=en](https://asahq.org/~/media/sites/asahq/files/public/resources/asa%20committees/recommendations-for-infectioncontrol-for-the-practice-of-anesthesiology-(1).pdf?la=en)



## Safe Injection Practices

**EXCELLENTIA**  
ADVISORY GROUP

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Health Care Worker (HCW) Type Key						
1 = RN	2 = LPN	3 = MD	4 = PA	5 = CRNA	6 = Anesthesiologist	7 = Rad Tech
Parameter:						Observation
1. Rubber septum on vial disinfected with alcohol before piercing?						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
2. 1 sterile needle used 1 time for 1 patient?						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
3. 1 sterile syringe (Open immediately before use) used 1 time for 1 patient?						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
4. Medication vial entered with new sterile needle? (No ports utilized)						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
5. Medication vial entered with new sterile syringe? (Open immediately before use)						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
6. Single use/ single dose medications discarded after single use? Accessed only 1 time						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
7. Multi dose vials labeled with 28 day expiration date and initials?						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
8. Multi dose vial is discarded within 28 day expiration date?						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
9. IV bag labeled with date and time of spike?						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
10. New single use auto disabling lancet device used to obtain blood sample?						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
11. Hub of IV tubing disinfected with alcohol before piercing?						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
12. Is the IV fluid bag used as a common source of fluid for multiple patients?						<input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
13. Medications drawn up in a designated "clean" med prep area?						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
14. Proper hand hygiene performed BEFORE handling of medications or injection?						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
15. Aseptic technique utilized when preparing and administering injections						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
16. Mask worn when placing catheter or injecting material into spinal canal or subdural space?						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A

# Safe Injection Practices



**Observers:**

Total Observations:		Total Category Observations:		Total Fallouts:	
1 = RN	2 = LPN	3 = MD	4 = PA	5 = CRNA	6 = Anesthesiologist
7 = Rad Tech					

**Parameter:**

	Yes	No	N/A	HCW w/ Fallout
<b>Example:</b>	15 (50%)	5 (16.7%)	10	
1. Rubber septum on vial disinfected with alcohol before piercing?				
2. 1 sterile needle used 1 time for 1 patient?				
3. 1 sterile syringe (Open immediately before use) used 1 time for 1 patient?				
4. Medication vial entered with new sterile needle? (No ports utilized)				
5. Medication vial entered with new sterile syringe? (Open immediately before use)				
6. Single use single dose medications discarded after single use? Accessed only 1 time				
7. Multi dose vials labeled with 28 day expiration date and initials?				
8. Multi dose vial is discarded within 28 day expiration date?				
9. IV bag labeled with date and time of spike?				
10. New single use auto disabling lancet device used to obtain blood sample?				
11. Hub of IV tubing disinfected with alcohol before piercing?				
12. Is the IV fluid bag used as a common source of fluid for multiple patients?				
13. Medications drawn up in a designated "clean" med prep area?				
14. Proper hand hygiene performed BEFORE handling of medications or injection?				
15. Aseptic technique utilized when preparing and administering injections				
16. Mask worn when placing catheter or injecting material into spinal canal or subdural space?				

To determine percentage:  
 Yes: total number of yes answers divided by the (total number of yes plus the total number of no answers) times 100 = percentage  
 No: total number of no answers divided by the (total number of yes plus the total number of no answers) times 100 = percentage  
 N/A: do not include not applicable answers in the total number of category observations or when determining percentage  
 Total Fallouts: add up all of the numbers in the blue boxes. To determine the percentage: divide the number of fallouts by the total number of category observations times 100 = percentage

# Safe Injection Practices

## Anesthesia/ Medication Cart Daily Checklist



MONTH	Multi-Dose vials			SINGLE DOSE VIALS Discarded after each use	SYRINGES LABELED Med Name (MN) Strengths (S) Date/ Time (D/T) Initiated (I)				CORRECTIVE PLAN OF ACTION AND/ OR COMMENTS
	Open/ In Use	Not Open			MN	S	D/T	I	
DAY	28 d OK	Initiated	In Date						
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
0									

## Safe Injection Practices

Provided all of the tools and still having problems?

Behavioral modification techniques:



Positive reinforcement



Negative reinforcement



Punitive

## Safe Injection Practices

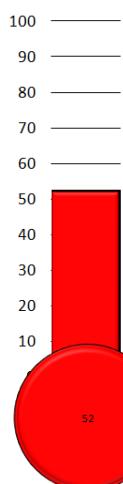


Positive reinforcement

- Praise
- Setting a goal
- Reward
- Competition

## Safe Injection Practices

### **FOLLOWS SAFE INJECTION PRACTICES**



Thermometer per ALL group  
• By Discipline

## Safe Injection Practices



### **Negative reinforcement**

- Occurs when something already present is removed (taken away) as a result of a behavior. The behavior that led to the removal will increase in the future because it created a favorable outcome.

Example:

**Before:** annoying car in front.

**Behavior:** blast the car horn.

**After:** annoying car is gone.

**Future behavior:** Driver will blast the horn when an annoying car is in front.

## Safe Injection Practices



### Punitive

- incident report
- counseling
- fines

## Safe Injection Practices

### Common Themes and Findings

- Investigations were resource-intensive and disruptive
  - Notification, testing, and counseling of hundreds of patients
- Delayed recognition and missed opportunities
  - Prolonged transmission
  - Growing reservoirs of infected patients
- IC programs lacking or responsibilities unclear
- Entirely preventable
  - Standard precautions + aseptic technique

## Safe Injection Practices



## QUESTIONS

## Safe Injection Practices

### REFERENCES:

- AAAHC Connection: Safe injection practice:  
[http://www.aaahc.org/Global/pdfs/Connection/2014.05%20Connection\\_May\\_Safe%20Injection%20Practices.pdf](http://www.aaahc.org/Global/pdfs/Connection/2014.05%20Connection_May_Safe%20Injection%20Practices.pdf) :accessed 10/20/16
- APIC position paper: Safe Injection Practices:  
[http://www.apic.org/Resource\\_TinyMceFileManager/Position\\_Statements/2016APICSIPPositionPaper.pdf](http://www.apic.org/Resource_TinyMceFileManager/Position_Statements/2016APICSIPPositionPaper.pdf) :accessed 10/20/16
- One and only campaign:  
[http://www.oneandonlycampaign.org/sites/default/files/upload/pdf/Injection%20Safety%20FAQs%20%282%29%20FINAL\\_0.pdf](http://www.oneandonlycampaign.org/sites/default/files/upload/pdf/Injection%20Safety%20FAQs%20%282%29%20FINAL_0.pdf) : accessed 10/20/16
- One and only campaign: CDC guidelines:  
<http://www.oneandonlycampaign.org/content/cdc-guidelines> :accessed 10/20/16
- 2007 Guidelines for Isolation precautions: Preventing transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare Settings  
<http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/pdf/isolation/isolation2007.pdf> : accessed 10/20/2016
- World Health Organization (WHO): Best practices for injections and related procedures [http://www.who.int/injection\\_safety/sign\\_toolkit/en/](http://www.who.int/injection_safety/sign_toolkit/en/) : accessed 10/20/16

## Safe Injection Practices

### THANK YOU

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