

## REMINDERS

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In addition to using a new needle every time, it is also important to use new cookers, cotton, and spoons. Reusing these materials or sharing with another person can increase the chance of infections, HIV, and Hepatitis.

If you absolutely must re-use or share needles/supplies with other people, make sure to thoroughly clean before reusing.

- Rinse needle and syringe with **COLD** water several times
- Flush needle and syringe with undiluted household bleach. Fill syringe completely and keep bleach in syringe for **TWO MINUTES** while shaking it. Discard bleach
- Thoroughly rinse needle and syringe with clean, cold water to remove the remaining bleach. Discard water

The best way to avoid abscesses, overdose, Hepatitis C, HIV, or other health conditions is to stop using. You can always ask a staff person for information or assistance on safe practices for drug use, treatment, and safe sex practices.

## LIFEPOINT SYRINGE ACCESS PROGRAM

**Vivent Health**  
1311 N 6<sup>th</sup> St  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
(414) 225-1608

**\*HIV, Hep C, and STI Testing Available**

Adapted from resources created by the Harm Reduction Coalition

# USE A NEW NEEDLE EVERY TIME YOU INJECT

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Help protect yourself and others by using a brand-new syringe every time you inject and divide drug



## WHAT DOES YOUR NEEDLE LOOK LIKE?

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Every time a needle is used, the skin damages the point of the needle.

Using needles with damaged points can lead to:

- Abscesses
- Infections
- Blown veins

Using dull needles:

- Causes unnecessary trauma to the veins and surrounding tissue.
- Leads to larger puncture wound and increased bleeding.
- Is not as comfortable as using a new, sharp needle.



New Needle



Needle used once



Needle used twice



Needle used 6 times

## THE SKIN IS TOUGH

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Use a new syringe every time you poke your skin or vein. Even if you miss your vein, reload a **NEW** syringe, and try again in another site.

- Don't use the same needle to shoot over and over again.
- Never try to sharpen a used point. This only makes the needle more dangerous.
- Don't mix a hit with the tip of a needle.

Use a brand new needle and syringe **EVERY TIME** you poke your skin or vein