

# THE IMPACTS OF UNSAFE MEDICAL INJECTIONS IN THE U.S.

## Unsafe Injection Practices Have Devastating Consequences<sup>1</sup>

Syringe reuse and misuse of medication vials have resulted in dozens of outbreaks and **THE NEED TO ADVISE MORE THAN 150,000 PATIENTS...**

...to seek testing for bloodborne pathogens such as **HEPATITIS B, HEPATITIS C AND HIV<sup>2</sup>** and have led to...



Patient illness and death



Legal charges/ malpractice suits

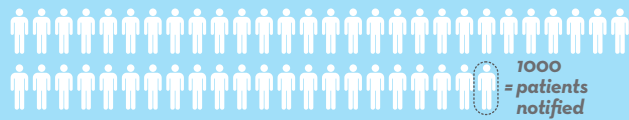


Loss of clinician license



Criminal charges

In just one clinic, syringe re-use to access medication vials for multiple patients resulted in an outbreak and one of the largest public health notifications in U.S. history.



**50,000 PEOPLE EXPOSED TO INFECTION**



## Outbreaks Occur in a Variety of Medical Settings



Primary care clinics



Pediatric offices



Ambulatory surgical centers



Pain remediation clinics



Imaging facilities



Oncology clinics



Health fairs



**Injection Safety is Every Provider's Responsibility**

## Steps Every Healthcare Provider Should Take



Needles and syringes should not be used for more than one patient or reused to draw up additional medication.



Do not administer medications from a single-dose vial or IV bag to multiple patients.



Limit the use of multi-dose vials, and dedicate them to a single patient whenever possible.



Speak up if you see a colleague not following safe injection practices.

**1 ONE NEEDLE, ONE SYRINGE, ONLY ONE TIME.**



Safe Injection Practices Coalition  
[www.ONEandONLYcampaign.org](http://www.ONEandONLYcampaign.org)

The **One & Only Campaign** aims to eradicate outbreaks from unsafe medical injections by raising awareness among patients and healthcare providers about proper practices. The campaign is a public health effort led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and produced by the Safe Injection Practices Coalition (SIPC), a collaboration of several medical societies, state health departments, patient advocates, and private medical companies.



[FACEBOOK.COM/ONEANDONLYCAMPAIGN](https://www.facebook.com/oneandonlycampaign)



[@INJECTIONSAFETY](https://twitter.com/INJECTIONSAFETY)

## FOOTNOTES

- 1 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (August 24, 2012). Injection Safety Information for Providers. In CDC.gov. Retrieved October 10 2012, from <http://www.cdc.gov/injectionsafety/providers.html>.
- 2 Guh, Alice Y. MD, MPH; Thompson, Nicola D. PhD; Schaefer, Melissa K. MD; Patel, Priti R. MD, MPH; Perz, Joseph F. DrPH. Patient Notification for Bloodborne Pathogen Testing due to Unsafe Injection Practices in the US Health Care Settings, 2001-2011. Medical Care Journal, May2012.

