

Safe Injection Kit

The **Safe Injection Kit** is a harm reduction resource designed to provide non-prescription syringe pharmacy customers with the essential single-use items for every injection and promote safer injection practices. The **Safe Injection Kit** is based on rapid prototyping interviews with people who inject drugs at local syringe services programs, consultation with members of the syringe exchange program, and meetings with our team of expert advisors. The kit was updated based on our findings from surveys of people who used the kits provided by their pharmacies.

The **Safe Injection Kit** contains the following:

- A pamphlet on resources, sharps disposal, safe injection practices, and a link to the safe injection website containing the resource map and safe injection videos.
- A fillable overdose prevention plan.
- Alcohol swabs - to clean the injection site or sterilize fingers and thumbs before and after injection.
- Sterile water - that dissolves the drugs into a solution before injection and reduces the risk of bacterial infections like cellulitis and abscesses, septicemia, and endocarditis.
- Cookers - to mix and heat substances before injection. Cookers are one of the most commonly shared items used in drug injections; they are even more widely shared than needles. Shared ovens, like shared needles and other injection equipment, have been shown to transmit bloodborne infections between users.
- Cotton filters - to remove impurities and reduce the amount of harmful material and contaminants drawn into the syringe. Sterile filters help prevent collapsed veins, abscesses, infections, embolisms, and sepsis.
- A tourniquet - to raise veins to the skin's surface before injection. When used correctly, they reduce the risk of infections and abscesses.
- Antibiotic ointment and bandages - to treat the injection site and minimize the chance of infection.
- A sharps container for safe disposal of used syringes.

