The Safe Injection Practices Coalition (SIPC) is a partnership of healthcare-related organizations led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that was formed to promote safe injection practices in all U.S. healthcare settings. The SIPC has developed the One & Only Campaign – a public health education and awareness campaign – aimed at both healthcare providers and patients to advance and promote safe injection practices.

**What Patients Need to Know About Safe Medical Injections**

**Safe Injection Practices Coalition**

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Become an active partner in your health care.

**Glossary**

healthcare providers – doctors, nurses and other trained healthcare professionals

hepatitis B – a liver disease caused by the hepatitis B virus (HBV)

hepatitis C – a liver disease caused by the hepatitis C virus (HCV)

HIV – the virus that can lead to acquired immune deficiency syndrome, or AIDS

injection – forcing a fluid into the body by means of a syringe

IV – intravenous, or “within a vein”

needle – a sharp pointed object used for injection or removal of fluid from the body

syringe – an instrument used to inject fluids into the body or draw them from it

transmission – spread, as of an infection from one patient to another

vial – a small container or bottle that holds medicine
Did you know?

Most healthcare providers follow safe injection practices. Though not common, unsafe practices sometimes occur. Healthcare providers can spread diseases like hepatitis B, hepatitis C, or HIV if they reuse injection equipment like needles or syringes on more than one patient or to access vials that are shared between patients.

Here is what you should know about safe injection practices:

What are safe injection practices?
Safe injection practices are a set of practices that healthcare providers should follow when they give injections. For example, healthcare providers should not use the same syringe on more than one patient, even if the needle is changed. A good rule to remember is One Needle, One Syringe, only One Time.

Why are safe injection practices so important?
These practices will prevent the spread of diseases like hepatitis B, hepatitis C, or HIV.

Who should be aware of safe injection practices?
Anyone who receives an injection or IV therapy should be aware of these practices. Anyone who gives an injection or IV therapy (like a healthcare provider) should understand and follow safe injection practices.

What can patients do to find information about safe injection practices?
Patients can take the following steps to learn more about safe injection practices:
• Talk with your healthcare provider about safe injection practices.
• Go to www.cdc.gov/injectionsafety/1anonly.html for more information.

For more information, please visit: www.cdc.gov/injectionsafety/1anonly.html.