Greetings,

Thank you for partnering with us to help end infections from unsafe injection practices and needle use! We hope these quarterly newsletters will support you in the work, and that you will share this information with your patients, clients, and colleagues.

Thank you for your commitment to patient safety!

Respectfully,
The Oregon Health Authority Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Program

Spotlight on Botox medication vial handling

Botox is given in a variety of settings including outside of the healthcare setting. We understand that this medication is only sold in single-dose vials for cosmetic use, and that Botox from a single vial is often administered to multiple patients. Using single-dose vials on multiple patients has been associated with outbreaks in healthcare settings. Given this risk, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises that medications from single-dose vials cannot be administered to multiple patients. Additionally, in our state, Oregon Administrative Rule 333-019-0061 requires all licensed healthcare providers to adhere to Standard Precautions as defined in the CDC’s Guideline for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare Settings. This guideline includes the above recommendation against administering medications packaged in single-dose vials to multiple patients. Please contact us if you need help ensuring that your facility is adhering to this rule or would like to discuss ways to address this issue at your practice.

Free injection safety resource highlight

The CDC’s One & Only Campaign Single-Dose and Multi-Dose Vial Infographic is a visually appealing educational tool that outlines the differences between single and multi-dose medication vials, how to handle vials safely, ways to stay informed about medication handling, and the dangers of unsafe vial handling. Consider ordering a pack from CDC-INFO and passing them onto your colleagues in infection prevention and those who give injections. Access the infographic here.
Upcoming events

**Healthcare Worker Drug Diversion: Prevention and Response Part 2.** August 21, noon - 1p.m.

This participatory webinar will explain how healthcare facilities and public health agencies can:

- Prevent and respond to drug diversion and
- Promote opportunities to demonstrate commitment to safe injection practices and drug diversion prevention.

**Note:** This webinar will build on knowledge gained in Part 1. Find the slides and activities on our [website](#).

**Register for part 2.**

Updates to our Safe Injections and Needle Use Toolkit

The Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) has released the Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI) Drug Diversion Planning and Response Toolkit for State and Local Health Departments. This document defines best practices, provides resources informed by past drug diversion investigations, and recommends the enhancement of collaborations among public health agencies and partners representing regulatory affairs to better plan for, and respond to, healthcare personnel drug diversion.

We hope this toolkit is valuable for you! Please take a look [here](#) and fill out our [quick evaluation](#).

Injection safety in the news

In early 2018, two emergency room patients with acute hepatitis C virus (HCV) infections were detected via routine surveillance in Washington State. Both had received injections of opioids from the same nurse but had no behavioral risk factors for the infection. An investigation found that these two cases had a common source of infection, and the nurse who administered the injections later admitted to having diverted medications including injectable narcotics from patients under their care.

In April, the CDC published an [article](#) in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report on this investigation, including a summary of the investigation and a discussion of interventions that may prevent these events from taking place.

Partner engagement, developing written plans and policies, implementing best practices for medication handling, and supporting affected staff can help public health agencies and healthcare facilities and systems can effectively prevent, detect, and respond to drug diversion events by healthcare workers.

Stay in touch

If you have ideas about how or where to promote injection safety or are looking for more information, please contact us!

Email [Roza Tammer](#), HAI Reporting Epidemiologist.

Find us online

- [Injection safety website](#)
- [One and Only Campaign page](#)