



Neighbourhood **Needle Recovery** Program

Recovering discarded needles
safely and quickly from
Vancouver neighbourhoods





Needle recovery is part of Vancouver Coastal Health's Needle Exchange program. There are more than 12 000 people who use injection drugs in the Greater Vancouver region. By providing clean injection supplies, Vancouver Coastal Health reduces the spread of HIV, hepatitis C and other blood borne diseases.

While Vancouver Coastal Health works with injection drug users to encourage them to discard needles appropriately, some needles are left in neighbourhoods across the city.

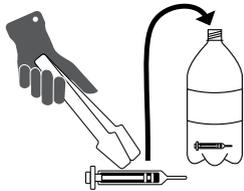
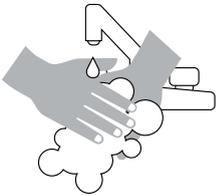
About the Needle Recovery Program

The Needle Recovery Program recovers needles quickly and safely in a number of ways, including:

- supplying needle drop boxes in lanes throughout the Downtown Eastside
- collecting used needles at exchanges located in eight community health centres across Vancouver at at over 40 other community-based locations
- conducting regular needle sweeps in school grounds and parks and in locations affected by high volumes of discarded needles
- recording where and how many needles are discarded in public places
- coordinating needle pick-up with community groups
- picking up needles identified through phone calls to the needle pick-up hotline (604.657.6561)

Vancouver Coastal Health's goal is to recover all inappropriately discarded needles as soon as possible or within 24 hours of a call to the hotline.

How to safely deal with a discarded needle

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| <p>1. Don't touch discarded needles with your bare hands – get the proper equipment</p> | <p>2. Transfer the needle to the container</p> |
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| <p>Sturdy gloves (rubber or leather) Tongs or pliers Puncture-resistant plastic container</p> | <p>Using the tongs or pliers, pick up the needle and place it in the container.</p> |
| <p>3. Secure the lid</p> | <p>4. Wash hands and gloves</p> |
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| <p>5. Return to any community health centre or call the needle pick-up hotline at 604.657.6561 for pick-up</p> | |
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How to talk to your children about discarded needles

Needles are safe when used by doctors and nurses to keep you healthy.

Needles are not safe when left outside on the ground or inside a house or building.

If you find a needle left lying around, **do not touch it**, but tell an adult.



What to do if you are stuck or pricked by a discarded needle

1. Don't panic
2. Wash the affected area with soap and water – do not use bleach or alcohol as they will irritate the wound
3. Allow the pricked area or wound to bleed freely – do not squeeze it
4. Go to the nearest emergency room for assessment by a doctor

Injured children should be taken to:

BC Children's Hospital
4480 Oak Street, Vancouver
604.875.2345

Injured adults

can go to any one of the following:

Vancouver General Hospital
855 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver
604.875.4111

St. Paul's Hospital
1080 Burrard Street
Vancouver
604.682.2344

Mt. Saint Josephs Hospital
3080 Prince Edward Street
Vancouver
604.874.1141
8am-8pm, 7 days / wk

Urgent Care Centre at UBC Hospital
2211 Wesbrook Mall
Vancouver
604.822.7222
8am-10pm, 7 days / wk



如發現被丟棄的注射針，請致電注射針收取熱線：**604.657.6561**，通知工作人員把注射針取走及安全處理。

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਵਰਤ ਕੇ ਸੁੱਟੀ ਹੋਈ ਸੂਈ ਦਿਖਾਈ ਦੇਵੇ ਤਾਂ ਸੂਈ ਨੂੰ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਅਤ ਤਰੀਕੇ ਨਾਲ ਚੁੱਕਣ ਅਤੇ ਸੁੱਟਣ ਲਈ **ਨੀਡਲ ਪਿੱਕ-ਅੱਪ ਹੌਟਲਾਈਨ ਨੂੰ 604.657.6561 'ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ**

Si encuentra una jeringa usada, **llame a la línea directa de recolección de jeringas al 604.657.6561** para que sea recogida y desechada de manera segura.



If you find a discarded needle,
**call the needle pick-up
hotline at 604.657.6561**
for pick-up and safe disposal.