

# EDUCATING PROVIDERS & PATIENTS ABOUT SAFE INJECTION PRACTICES

## STATE OF NEVADA NAMED PILOT SITE FOR NATIONAL CAMPAIGN

If you or your staff routinely provide injections or administer IVs, your patients may soon be asking some critical questions. Included in this article is a link to the Nevada Pilot Campaign, targeted at providers and patients to promote safe injection practices, you will discover ways you can participate in this exciting project! The Nevada State Health Division (NSHD) has partnered with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Safe Injection Practices Coalition (SIPC) to pilot the campaign to promote greater adherence to basic infection control procedures when healthcare providers administer any type of injection. Please take a moment to complete the survey available for viewing at: [www.surveymonkey.com/s/safeinjectionevaluationprovider](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/safeinjectionevaluationprovider) or contact the evaluation team at (702) 895-1121 if you are interested in participating in a focus group to share your opinions. Details about the campaign, the Coalition and about how you can make a difference may be found at: [www.OneandOnlycampaign.org](http://www.OneandOnlycampaign.org).



A 9-month, federally-funded project will evaluate informational materials developed by SIPC as part of its “**One and Only**” campaign to educate providers and patients that it is never appropriate to reuse a needle or syringe from one patient to another, to access an intravenous infusion bag with a used syringe, or to misuse single-dose or multi-dose vials. A national initiative to promote the use of “**One Needle, One Syringe and Only One Time**” will be conducted following the pilot project. The two pilot sites (Nevada and New York) are states where serious outbreaks related to unsafe injection practices have occurred.

In the U.S. in the past decade, over 30 outbreaks of infectious diseases including hepatitis B virus (HBV) and hepatitis C virus (HCV) were traced to unsafe injection practices. In fact, SIPC estimates that more than 100,000 people in the U.S. have been asked to get tested for HBV and HCV in the past ten years, following exposure to unsafe injection practices.

This project was implemented to raise awareness of the critical need for safe injection practices among both healthcare providers and patients. It is believed that, grounded in knowledge about safe injection practices, patients will be able to have a frank discussion with their providers regarding an important issue that affects their own health.

The fundamental mission of the “One and Only” campaign is to ensure that the transmission of bloodborne pathogens through unsafe injection practices becomes what is aptly called a “**Never Event.**” For more information, please visit [www.OneandOnlycampaign.org](http://www.OneandOnlycampaign.org).