



**IF YOU SEE  
USED NEEDLES  
OR SYRINGES**

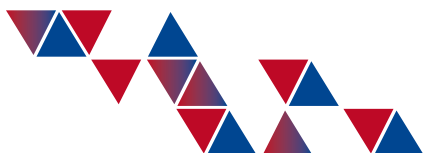
**DO NOT  
TOUCH  
THEM!**

**HA·REACT**

JOINT ACTION ON HIV AND CO-INFECTION  
PREVENTION AND HARM REDUCTION



Used and discarded injection equipment can very often be found in parks and areas surrounding schools and kindergardens, and as such it represents a genuine health risk to the larger population. Children in particular are notable to identify the risk of infection.



There is always a risk of blood-borne disease in case of an injury with a needle or another sharp object that has been in contact with another person's blood. Although there are several microbes that can transmit a disease in this way, the most common and most significant ones are the viruses HBV (hepatitis B virus), HCV (hepatitis C virus), and HIV (human immunodeficiency virus).

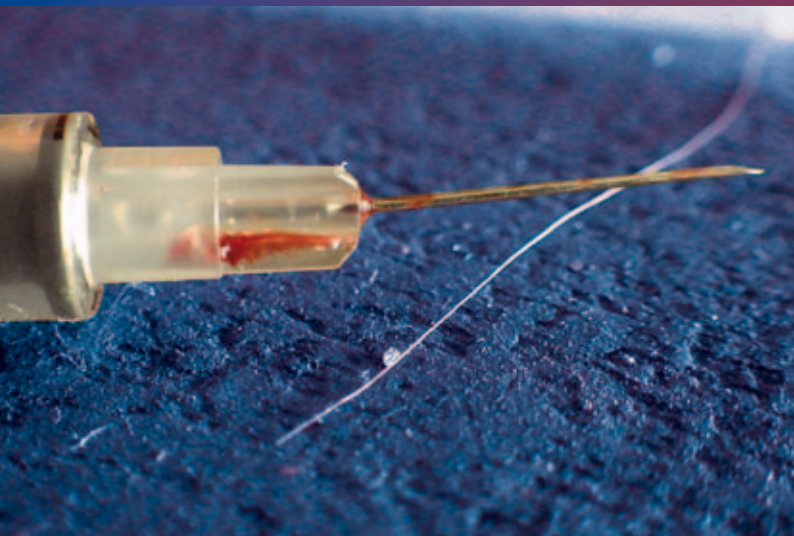




However, it should be noted that contact itself between a potentially infected fluid such as blood, plasma, semen, vaginal fluid and healthy, unbroken skin does not pose a risk of HIV, hepatitis B, or hepatitis C infection.







The steps to be taken immediately in case of a needle stick injury are as:

- allow the site of the injury/puncture on the skin to bleed for a few seconds,
- do not suck blood out of the site of the puncture,
- immediately rinse with running water then wash with soap and water,
- do not rub, only rinse and dry,
- it is recommended to apply a disinfectant to the site of the puncture.

Next, it is important to take the injured person to see a doctor who will assess the risk of infection and, if necessary, take appropriate protective and monitoring measures. These include checking the vaccination status, vaccinating the person for hepatitis B, administering antiretroviral therapy and testing for HIV and hepatitis B and C.

For information and consultation related to puncture incidents in Croatia, you may contact the Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) Outpatients' Department of Dr Fran Mihaljević Infectious Diseases Clinic on phone number **01 28 26 206**.











FLIGHT carries out activities to remove discarded needles and syringes by people who inject drugs from the environment in the City of Zagreb and the Zagreb County. If you find a discarded needle or syringe, do not touch it, but inform us on phone numbers

**091 955 5549** and **091 724 4744**.

FLIGHT collects such infectious waste safely and appropriately, and has a contract with a company that disposes of such waste in accordance with the law.



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**HRVATSKI ZAVOD  
ZA JAVNO ZDRAVSTVO**

In Croatia, the project is implemented by the Croatian National Institute for Public Health and FLIGHT.





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