

# Topic 6: Multi-Dose Vials



# Agenda

- Why Injection Safety Matters for Multi-Dose Vials
- Infection Control Actions for Using Multi-Dose Vials

# Learning OBJECTIVES

- **Discuss** two (2) reasons why injection safety actions are important when using multi-dose vials.
- **Describe** at least four (4) injection safety steps to take when using a multi-dose vial.

# Definitions

**Source:** CDC Website. “Questions about multi-dose vials”. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/injectionsafety/providers/p>

# Multi-Dose Vials are different

- Multi-dose vials are different from single-dose vials in several ways and require important injection safety actions.

## Why?

- Multi-dose vaccine vials are accessed by a new needle and syringe more than once, to pull out individual doses for separate patients.
- Accessing the vial more than once can be an infection control issue.

# Contaminated Vaccines cannot be used

- If a needle or syringe gets dirty and goes into the vial, it will contaminate the rest of the doses of vaccine inside the vial.
- If the vaccine is contaminated, it cannot be used anymore and must be thrown away.

## Why?

- If contaminated vaccine is used on a patient, the patient could get sick or die.
- We don't want to throw away vaccines that could be given to patients.

# Use multi-dose vials safely



# Handout: How Do I safely use a multi-Dose vial?

- Multi-Dose Vial Infection Control Procedure

Use the checklist to familiarize yourself with the appropriate infection control procedures.

## HOW DO I SAFELY USE A MULTI-DOSE VACCINE VIAL?

You vaccinate patients to protect them. Correctly using multi-dose vials keeps your patients safe from germs that can spread from contaminated vials, needles, and syringes.

**CHECK THAT YOU ARE** USING MULTI-DOSE VACCINE VIALS SAFELY **EVERY TIME.**



- ✓ Always prepare multi-dose vial injections away from patient care spaces in a clean designated area
- ✓ Clean your hands before touching the vial
- ✓ Check the label to make sure it is a multi-dose vaccine vial
- ✓ Check to make sure the vaccine is **not expired** or **"beyond use"**
- ✓ Look and see if the vaccine appears the way the vaccine maker tells you it should
- ✓ Use **brand-new, sterile needles and syringes** for every vaccine dose
- ✓ Disinfect the **top** part of the vial (the vial stopper) with an alcohol prep pad—**every time**
- ✓ Make sure the **top is dry** before sticking the needle in it
- ✓ When you first put a needle in, **write the date and time** on the label
- ✓ Follow the vaccine maker's **instructions for storage**
- ✓ **Never "pool" doses** (combine partial doses from multiple vials to make one dose for a patient)



# Key Takeaways

- Multi-dose vials require a specific set of safety procedures that are different from those for single-dose vials or multi-dose vials used with only one patient.
- Contaminated vaccines cannot be used.
- Injection safety actions are important.

# Resources and Future Training sessions

Project Firstline on CDC:

<https://www.cdc.gov/infection-control/projectfirstline/index.html>

Project Firstline on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/CDCProjectFirstline/>

Twitter:

[https://twitter.com/CDC\\_Firstline](https://twitter.com/CDC_Firstline)

Youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvvp9iOILTQZQGtDnSDGViKDdRtlc13VX>



# Feedback Form



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