



EXCHANGE SUPPLIES MAKING INJECTING SAFER

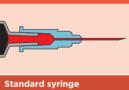
GUIDE TO DEAD SPACE

Dead space is the space between the end of the plunger and the tip of the needle.



High dead space syringe

Syringes made for detachable needles have a large dead space in the tip of the syringe, and in the hub of the needle that holds blood – this makes them more dangerous when shared because more blood means more virus, and longer viral survival.



Standard detachable needle

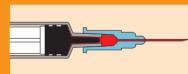
Dead space typically 92 L

Reduced dead space syringe

Reduced dead space syringes have a spike on the end of the plunger that fills most of the tip of the syringe.

They are limited in their ability to reduce the dead space because around half of the dead space is in the needle hub.

They are not compatible with low dead space needles because the plunger spike pushes them off the syringe.



Modified syringe

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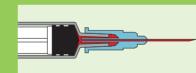
Dead space typically 59 L

Low dead space needle

Total Dose low dead space needles use a plastic spike to reduce the dead space both in the needle hub, and the tip of the syringe.

This reduces the amount of drug left in the tip of the syringe, and the need for flushing.

Total Dose needles have a lower dead space than reduced dead space syringes.



Standard syringe

Low dead space needle

Dead space as low as 17 L

Low dead space syringe

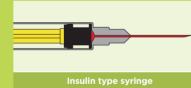
1ml fixed needle syringes have a very low dead space. This means that there is very little blood in them after injecting.

This reduces risk of HIV and hepatitis transmission because there are fewer viral particles, and it also reduces the survival time for any blood-borne viruses remaining after use.

The Unisharp 1ml fixed low dead space syringe comes with plungers in a range of colours to help prevent accidental sharing.

Unfortunately, not everyone can use low dead space syringes - they are not so good for people who can't get a vein quickly, and so sometimes need to change their needle, and people injecting larger volumes of liquid, or injecting into deeper veins.





1ml fixed people syrings

Dead space as low as 3 L