

# ATLANTIC MEDICAL IMAGING

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## POLICY STATEMENT AND PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES

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CATEGORY: PATIENT CARE – PHARMACY

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### **Subject: Safe Injection and Medication Vial Use Policy**

#### **Purpose:**

To prevent transmission of bloodborne pathogens and other infectious agents by ensuring safe injection practices are followed at all Atlantic Medical Imaging (AMI) facilities, in accordance with CDC guidelines, OSHA standards, and New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) requirements.

#### **Policy:**

Atlantic Medical Imaging (AMI) is committed to maintaining the highest standards of injection safety. All staff who prepare or administer injections will strictly follow CDC-recommended safe injection practices. Unsafe injection practices such as reuse of needles, syringes, or medication vials in a manner that may expose patients to contamination are prohibited.

Single-dose medications are the standard of practice at AMI.

Multi-dose vials are permitted only within the Aesthetics Injectables service line and must be handled in accordance with strict infection prevention standards outlined in this policy.

Failure to adhere to this policy may result in disciplinary action and corrective measures.

#### **Scope:**

This policy applies to all AMI clinical and procedural areas.

#### **Procedure:**

##### **General Injection Safety Requirements**

###### **1. Needles, cannulas, and syringes**

- Are sterile, single-use devices
- Must never be reused for another patient or to access medication for more than one patient
- Must be discarded immediately after use

###### **2. Aseptic Technique**

- Perform hand hygiene before medication preparation and administration
- Use aseptic technique to prevent contamination of sterile injection equipment
- Prepare injections in a clean, designated medication preparation area

###### **3. Medication Vials**

- Disinfect the rubber septum of all medication vials with alcohol and allow them to

Reviewed:

Revised: October 2016, May 2026

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- dry before each entry
- Never leave needles, cannulas, or spikes inserted into medication vials
- 4. Syringe Use**
  - Syringes must not be used for more than one patient, even if the needle or cannula is changed
  - Once a syringe accesses a patient or IV system, it is considered contaminated
- 5. IV Administration Sets**
  - Intravenous bags, tubing, connectors, and administration sets are for single-patient use only
  - Dispose of all IV administration equipment after patient use
- 6. Pre-drawn Medications**
  - Should be avoided whenever possible
  - If necessary, pre-drawn medications must be:
    - Labeled immediately with:
      - Medication name and concentration
      - Date and time prepared
      - Initials of the person preparing the medication
    - Used as soon as possible and discarded per manufacturer or facility policy

#### Single-Dose Vial Requirements

- Single-dose vials are used whenever possible
- Single-dose vials are:
  - Intended for use in one patient for one procedure
  - Must be discarded immediately after the procedure, even if medication remains
- Single-dose vials may not be entered more than once and may not be used for multiple patients

#### Multi-Dose Vial Use – AMI Aesthetics only

Multi-dose vials are restricted exclusively to the AMI Aesthetics service line.

When multi-dose vials are used in Aesthetics services, the following must be met:

1. Vials must be:
  - Clearly labeled as multidose by the manufacturer
  - Dedicated to a single patient whenever possible
2. Storage and Use:
  - Stored according to manufacturer's instructions
  - Accessed using a new sterile needle and new sterile syringe for each entry
  - Never taken into immediate patient treatment areas if possible
3. Labeling:
  - Upon first access, label vial with:
    - Date opened

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- Initials of staff opening vial
- 4. Disposal:
  - Discard immediately if:
    - Sterility is compromised
    - Contamination is suspected
    - Manufacturer expiration is reached

#### Sharps Safety

1. Needles and sharps must be disposed of immediately after use in approved puncture-resistant sharps containers.
2. Sharps containers:
  - Must not be overfilled
  - Are replaced when the fill line is reached
  - Must never be manually emptied or compressed

#### Compliance and Monitoring

- Injection safety compliance will be monitored through:
  - Infection control rounds
  - Staff training
  - Incident reporting and audits
- All staff receive education on safe injection practices at orientation and as required thereafter.

#### References:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- Guide to Infection Prevention for Outpatient Settings: Minimum Expectations for Safe Care <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/outpatient/index.html>
- CDC. Injection Safety <https://www.cdc.gov/injection-safety>
- CDC. 2007 Guideline for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare Settings <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/isolation/index.html>
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).
- Bloodborne Pathogens Standard (29 CFR 1910.1030)