To Reduce the Risk of an Overdose

Always have Naloxone on hand when you use in case you or someone else overdoses

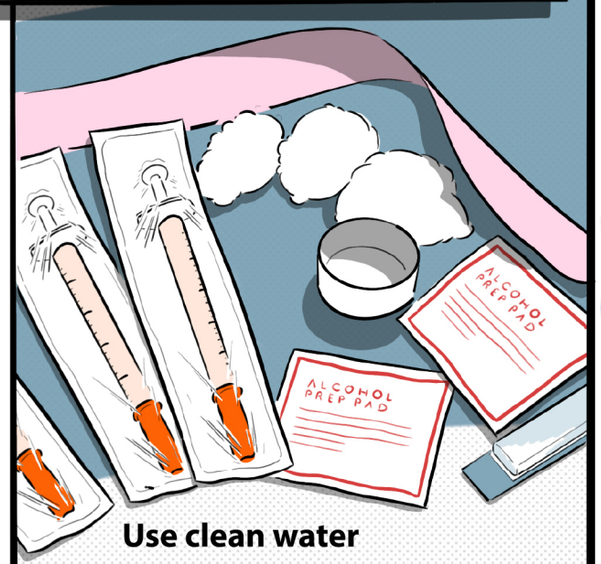
If you can, test your drugs before you use them

- Start with a small amount first to test what you're using
- Fentanyl test strips can also help you learn what is in your drugs
- Even drugs like Methamphetamine, Cocaine, and pressed pills pose a risk for overdose because they can contain Fentanyl and other drugs

Don't inject alone

- Use with others
- Call the ***Never Use Alone*** line @ 800-484-3731 or ***www.neverusealone.com***

To Prevent Viral and Bacterial Infections



Use clean water

- Use sterile water. Water can also be sterilized by boiling it in the cooker

Use new, sterile needles and supplies EVERY TIME you inject

- Used needles, syringes, cookers and cottons can be coated with bacteria and viruses.
- You can get infections when bacteria and viruses get into the blood stream

Clean the skin around where you are planning to inject

- Alcohol swab is best
- Soap and water or hand sanitizer are okay too

Keep your needle and syringe clean right up until you inject

To help Prevent the Spread of Infectious Diseases

Get your Hepatitis A and B Vaccines

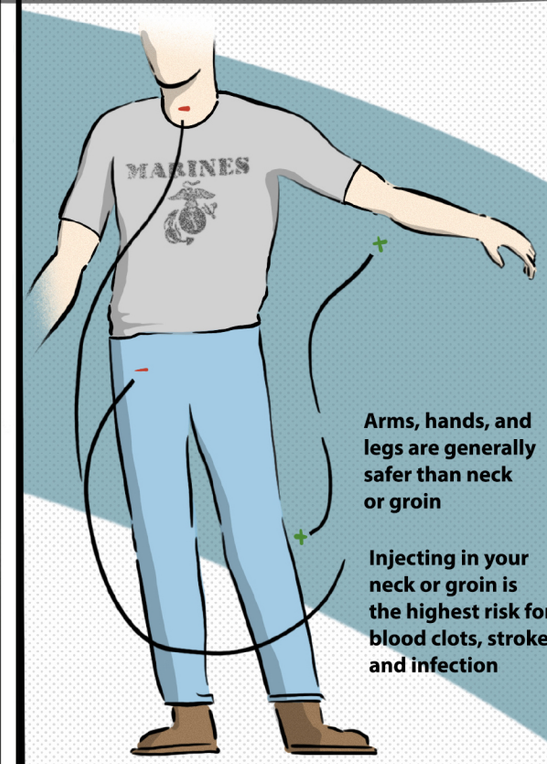
- These will protect you from these infections in the long run

Test regularly for HIV and Hep C

- Early identification and treatment will help you and others by preventing the spread of these infections
- You can get HCV more than once. Even if you are teasted and treated, it is important to keep getting tested

Dispose of your needles in a sharps container of other sturdy container

To Protect Your Veins and Prevent Other Health Problems



Use a new needle every time

- Used needles get dull quickly and can cause more damage to yout skin

Try to inject in parts of your body that are lower risk for causing harms, like infection and stroke

- And consider changing how you use every once in a while to give your veins a break