

# Northern Ireland

## Guide to pack contents

**1ml starter** | NXNIR5x1F | Order in boxes of 30 | Mainly used by people who are injecting heroin and crack cocaine

 <b>30G</b> Unisharp 1ml fixed					
x 5	x 5	x 5	x 5	x 1	x 1

**1ml standard** | NXNIR10x1F | Order in boxes of 30 | Mainly used by people who are injecting heroin and crack cocaine

 <b>30G</b> Unisharp 1ml fixed							
x 10	x 10	x 10	x 1	x 10	x 10	x 1	x 1

**2ml starter** | NXNIR5x2 | Order in boxes of 20 | Mainly used by people who are injecting heroin and crack cocaine

 <b>2ml</b> Nevershare Luer lock syringe					
x 5	x 5	x 5	x 5	x 1	x 1

**2ml standard** | NXNIR10x2 | Order in boxes of 20 | Mainly used by people who are injecting heroin and crack cocaine

 <b>2ml</b> Nevershare Luer lock syringe							
x 10	x 10	x 10	x 1	x 10	x 10	x 1	x 1

**Steroid pack** | NXNIR10x2GB | Order in boxes of 50 | Mainly used by people who inject steroids

 <b>2ml</b> Nevershare Luer lock syringe	 <b>21G</b> Green Total Dose 40mm 1 1/2 inch	 <b>23G</b> Blue Total Dose 30mm 1 1/4 inch			
x 10	x 10	x 10	x 10	x 1	x 1

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### Providing free injecting equipment through the needle and syringe programme is one of the most cost-effective public health programmes in the world.

The supply of injecting equipment through pharmacies in Northern Ireland has prevented an HIV epidemic, and saved hundreds, if not thousands, of lives.

This brief guide explains the pack contents, and the rationale for their inclusion.

**Unisharp fixed syringes** have been designed for people who inject drugs. The colours are a visual system that makes it possible to tell which syringe belongs to which person, and prevents accidental sharing of re-used equipment.



**Water** is provided so people who inject don't have to use non-sterile water. This helps prevent local infections such as abscesses, but also serious infections like endocarditis, and septicemia.



The **amp snapper** is provided to prevent glass cuts when opening the water ampoule. The amp must be placed in the snapper with the blue dot facing out, or it may shatter.



#### Coloured syringes

The syringes in the packs have coloured plungers so that in the event of re-use it is easy for people to be able to be sure which syringes are theirs. This helps prevent accidental sharing, and enables couples to keep their equipment separate.



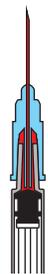
The packs contain syringes that are all one colour, and the colour is identified by a dot on the outside. If they are collecting more than one pack, try and give different colours if you can.

The **stericup** is provided so that people don't have to use non-sterile spoons for drug preparation. This reduces the risk of both bacterial infections, and may reduce the risk of blood-borne virus transmission if spoons come into contact with contaminated injecting equipment.



#### Total Dose low dead space needles

have been specially made with a plastic spike which fits down into the syringe to reduce the amount of blood that is in there after use, this means that if the syringe is shared there is less risk of blood-borne virus transmission than a standard needle and syringe connection.



#### Citric acid sachets

are provided because an acid is needed to make brown heroin and crack cocaine dissolve in water. Providing a sterile sachet prevents the use of lemon juice and vinegar which can cause fungal infections.



Having acid in the packs also encourages people to return to the needle exchange, and use it more frequently.

**Swabs** are provided for cleaning the skin prior to injection, in order to reduce the risk of bacterial contamination of the needle during injection which can cause abscess, swelling, cellulitis, and endocarditis.

