

COVID-19 HIV PREVENTION, TREATMENT, CARE AND SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS¹

Active tips to share with clients



Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub.

Stay home if you feel unwell. If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and call in advance.





Reduce Risk. Minimize sharing of equipment including all injecting equipment, tourniquets, pipes, bongs, joints and nasal tubes. Use alcohol swabs on mouthpieces before using and dispose of used equipment.

If you take ARV and/or methadone/ buprenorphine, ask your clinic or doctor for longer take-home doses and also work with them to make a plan to prevent disruptions to your dose.





Maintain at least 1 metre (3 feet) distance between each other at all times.

Work with your local needle exchange service to get enough syringes and injecting equipment.





Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

Avoid traveling.





Make sure you, and the people around you, follow good respiratory hygiene. This means covering your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze. Then dispose of the used tissue immediately.

Plan & prepare for overdose.

Make sure you have access to naloxone and agree with your peers on an OD plan.



Follow the directions of your local health authority. Keep up to date on the latest COVID-19 information.

¹ WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users, 2012 revision, (Geneva, WHO, 2012)