SYRINGE PRESCRIBING GUIDE

TYPES OF SYRINGES

Grayken Center
for Addiction
Boston Medical Center

	Barrel	Length
31 GAUGE	1CC	5/16"

Also known as:
- Ultra ultra fine
- Bee stingers
- Short tip 5/16th inch
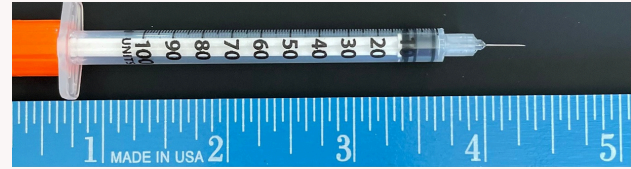
	Barrel	Length
30 GAUGE	1CC	1/2"

Also known as:
- Ultra fine
- 30 longs
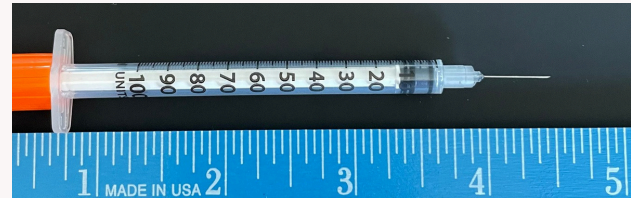
	Barrel	Length
28 GAUGE	.5CC &1CC	1/2"

Also known as:
- Biggie smalls -1cc barrel
- Smalls -0.5cc barrel

	Barrel	Length
27 GAUGE	1CC	5/8"

Also known as:
- Bigs
- Big bigs
- 5/8 inch

	Barrel	Length
22 GAUGE	3CC	1 ½"
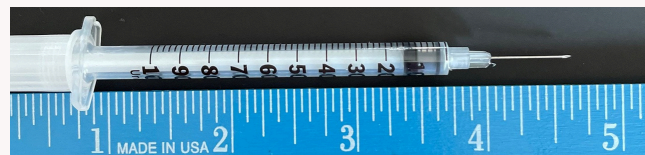
-Steroid/ Hormone
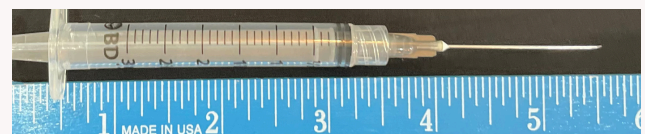
FIND A SAFE VEIN AND A BACK-UP VEIN

- Pick a safer injection site

BEST	• Arms • Back of hand
OK	• Legs • Feet
AVOID	• Groin • Neck • Wrist

- **CLEAN AREA WITH ALCOHOL SWAB PRIOR TO INJECTING**
- **USE A NEW NEEDLE EVERY TIME YOU INJECT**

FOR THE PRESCRIBER

USE EPIC ORDER SET "SYRINGE PRESCRIBING"

PRESCRIPTION DETAILS

- When deciding quantity: ask patient preference, how many times a day they inject, housing situation for storage etc.
  - 1 Box of syringes = 100 syringes
  - 1 Box of Alcohol swabs = 100 swabs

- Rx Instructions for syringe: Clean area with alcohol swab then inject with new syringe 4 x a day PRN.
- Standard rx order is 100 syringes with 11 refills, modify as needed.

ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES

- Band aids
- Cotton balls
- Tourniquets
- Sharps container
- Sterile water vials (2.5ml)
- Cooker (vessel to dissolve powder/ solid drugs prior to injection)

*These items may not be covered by insurance. May be available for purchase, also available at harm reduction programs.

WRITING A PRESCRIPTION OUTSIDE OF ORDER SET

- Diagnosis Codes (not always required):
  - ZZ20.6: contact with and (suspected) exposure to HIV
  - Z20.2: contact with and (suspected) exposure to infection with a predominantly sexual mode of transmission
  - Z77.21: contact with and (suspected) exposure to potentially hazardous body fluids
- If not auto populated when prescribing: please include barrel size, gauge and syringe size.
- Include directions of use: number of times a day patient injects Ex: Clean area with alcohol swab and then inject with a new syringe 3-4x a day PRN
- Include quantity (syringes come in 10 packs and one box has 100 syringes), dispensed and refills.