

# A NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR INFECTION CONTROL THROUGH SAFE INJECTIONS



## A Global Problem

Unsafe injections are the world's 9<sup>th</sup> biggest killer causing 1.3 million early deaths each year.<sup>1</sup>

Medical practitioners are giving unsafe injections, ordinarily because they don't have the resources to do otherwise, but more importantly, because they simply don't understand the consequences it can have.

Each year the re-use of injections and unsafe injection practices are estimated to cause:<sup>2</sup>

- 21 million Hepatitis B infections (32% of global burden)
- 2 million Hepatitis C infections (40% of global burden)
- 260,000 HIV infections (5% of global burden)

## The LifeSaver Solution

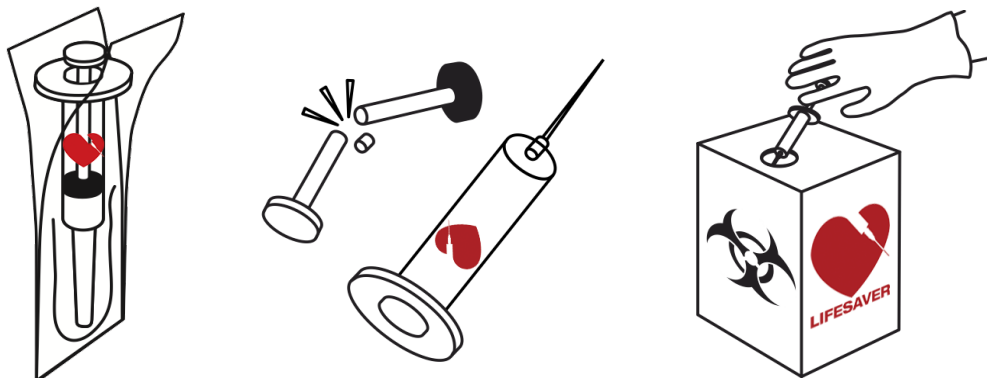
Prevention is better than cure.

An Auto Disable (AD) syringe cannot be used more than once. It is a preventative measure, eliminating syringe re-use practices that may lead to infecting other recipients. Its use ensures a safe injection for all. In 2014 the World Health Organisation (WHO) will issue an Injection Safety Initiative calling for the exclusive use of AD syringes in all countries by 2017. A policy already exists for the immunisation sector. The new policy will cover the much larger curative (therapeutic) sector (90%+).

The SafePoint Trust, founded in 2006 by Marc Koska OBE, conducts innovative (LifeSaver) Safe Injection Programmes that enable countries to implement comprehensive holistic injection solutions for curative treatment, which reduce infections nationwide. SafePoint fully coordinated WHO's recently drafted global policy for 'Safe and Appropriate use of Therapeutic Injections' and will support their upcoming Global Injection Safety initiative in 2014.

LifeSaver branded syringes can be sourced from a broad range of global manufacturers and are fully compliant with WHO's PQS (Performance, Quality & Safety)<sup>3</sup> standard for AD / RUP (Re-Use Prevention) Syringes (including ISO 7886-4).

The term LifeSaver represents a social branding and delivery system designed to promote a single, global vision in line with WHO policy. The open-sourced logo is intended to act as an instantly recognisable guarantee of a safe injection, universally understood by governments and NGOs, doctors, nurses, mothers and children. The heart is the universal symbol for care. It is simply and quickly understood as a signifying force for change and for the good of society.



Each LifeSaver Programme has 6 key elements:

**1. Policy**

Governments mandate the exclusive use of LifeSaver syringes thereby implementing the WHO global policy for safe curative injections.

**2. Funding**

International and In-country funders assist with the purchase of LifeSaver syringes while ensuring the creation of a sustainable and reliable supply chain.

**3. Manufacturers**

Ensuring sufficient supply of safety syringes by assisting and encouraging manufacturers to convert to only LifeSaver products.

**4. Ministries of Health**

Only purchasing & promoting LifeSaver syringes and implementing a scalable & sustainable safe injection training programme including sharps waste management.

**5. Healthcare Workers**

Ensuring healthcare workers have sufficient supply of LifeSaver products and incentivising their use so safe injection procedures are always followed.

**6. Public / Patients**

Raising public awareness of the importance of a safe injection each and every time.

## Benefits

- **15x Cost Reductions**

For every \$1 invested in safe injections, an average of \$14.57 will be saved<sup>4</sup> through a reduction in infections, strain on public health & community resources and inpatient stays, while improving medical efficiency & delivery.

- **Increase GDP & Attract International Funding**

Healthier people help to increase overall productivity while improving donor & public confidence in the health system.

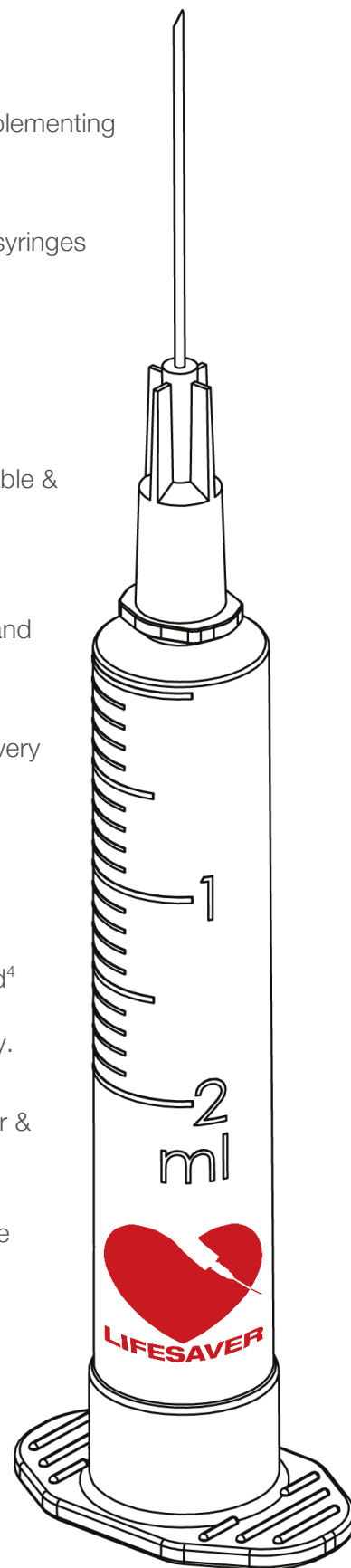
- **Real-Time Health Data**

Collected instantly and directly from patients using the LifeSaver healthcare app on Samsung smart phones, available to all healthcare workers.

## Contact

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<sup>1</sup> Miller MA, Pisani E. The cost of unsafe injections. Bulletin of the World Health Organization, 2003, 77:808–811.

<sup>2</sup> Hauri AM et al. The global burden of disease attributable to contaminated injections given in health care settings. Int J STD AIDS 2004;16:7-16.

<sup>3</sup> PQS - Performance, Quality and Safety - a system used by the World Health Organisation as their internal standard for qualifying AD, RUP, SIP safety devices within both the immunisation and therapeutic/curative markets.

<sup>4</sup> WHO preliminary cost-effectiveness analysis based on 2010 data.