

Draft Resolution 11: Injection Safety

Preamble

- Recognising that injections are a common medical intervention and provide the foundation of delivery of most healthcare programmes in developing countries;
- Recognising the health burden caused by unsafe injection practices, especially the transmission of HIV, Hepatitis and other blood-borne pathogens;
- Aware that injections are often over-prescribed;
- Observing established WHO principles on injection safety;
- Noting that for injection safety to be effective it must apply to all types of injections (immunisation and curative services); and that it must be operated on a national scale;
- Recognizing the progress made to date in injection safety programmes in member states;
- Further noting that there are cost effective interventions that address injection safety.

Member states are urged:

1. To implement, support or scale up existing comprehensive injection safety programmes, by November 2009.

These programmes should include four complementary components at levels that correspond to country needs:

- I. Injection safety devices: supply adequate levels of safe injection devices, to ensure appropriate use.
 - II. Sharps waste disposal: appropriate management of infectious sharps waste.
 - III. Healthcare worker training: provide continued training on safe injection practices.
 - IV. Public information: to decrease demand for unnecessary injections and instill awareness of safe injection practices.
2. Ensure appropriate quality safe injection devices through the adoption by the National Regulatory Agencies of international standards on product quality (ISO 7886:1-4 and WHO PQS where relevant), within the same time frame as above.
 3. Support the implementation of, or introduce, national policies on injection safety by November 2007.

ECSA Secretariat is directed to:

1. Host a forum of participating ECSA member states to share and discuss key points of programme implementation.
2. Facilitate communication among key stakeholders.

3. Consider linkages to other ECSA activities, such as proposed regional revolving funds or other activities related to ensuring affordable continuous supplies.