

Peel HIV/AIDS Network

160 Traders Blvd.
Unit 1
Mississauga, ON
905-361-0523
Hours: Monday – Friday
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

John Howard Society of Peel-Halton-Dufferin

100 Queen St. W.,
Brampton, ON
905-459-2205
Hours: Monday – Friday
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Healthy Sexuality Clinics:

(call for hours of operation)

150 Central Park Dr., Suite 9
Brampton, ON
905-791-5905

18 King St. E.,
Courtyards of Caledon
2nd Floor, Suite D-8
Bolton, ON
905-791-5905

325 Central Pkwy. W., Unit 21
Mississauga, ON
905-270-0587

6975 Meadowvale Town Centre Cir.,
Mississauga, ON
905-270-5662

2227 South Millway,
2nd Floor, Mississauga, ON
905-820-3663

7330 Goreway Dr., (lower level)
Malton, ON
905-791-7800, ext. 7483

ALL SERVICES ARE FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL

For more information about our services,
please contact us at Cell: 647-225-1623
Peel Public Health: 905-799-7700
www.peelneedleexchange.ca

**PEEL WORKS NED > NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAM
A POINT OF REFERENCE**



STEROID USE

REDUCE YOUR RISK

Our Goal

To prevent the spread of hepatitis B and C and HIV/AIDS among people who inject drugs (including steroids) while using a Harm Reduction philosophy.

Peel Works Provides:

- › Sterile needles* and equipment
- › Containers to safely dispose used needles
- › Pick up of used needles
- › Information on safer drug use
- › Information on safer sex
- › Free condoms and lube
- › Referrals to other agencies for support and treatment
- › Referrals to a Healthy Sexuality Clinic for anonymous HIV/AIDS testing, hepatitis B and C testing, hepatitis B vaccination, sexually transmitted infection testing and treatment

*The use of the term 'needles' in this brochure refers to the whole injecting device: syringe, plunger, barrel etc.

Abscesses

- › Signs and symptoms include a reddish swelling that feels hot to touch and may develop a hard, pus-filled core.
- › Abscesses are caused by a bacterial infection in the skin/tissue.
- › To reduce your risk, clean the injection site with an alcohol swab, use sterile equipment and use a different injection site each time you inject.
- › If you see signs of an abscess, see a doctor right away.

Other Risks When Injecting

- › Hepatitis B and C and HIV can be spread by sharing needles and equipment.
- › Hitting a nerve.
- › Cellulitis: a painful inflammation of the skin.

Things To Consider If You Are Injecting

Anabolic Steroids

- › Steroids are injected into the muscles **only**.
- › Never inject into an artery or vein.
- › Safer injection sites are the bum, thighs, or arms/shoulders.

The Needle

- › Use a new needle for every injection.
- › Never share or borrow needles from someone else.
- › Dispose of needles as soon as you are done with them.
- › Exchange used needles for new ones from Peel Works.

Safe Disposal of Used Needles

- › Never flush needles down the toilet.
- › Never throw needles into sewers or garbage cans.
- › Never leave any needles in a park, playground or other public area.
- › Peel Works provides free sharps containers for used needles. If you don't have a sharps container, put the used needles in a puncture-proof container (e.g. bleach container).
- › Bring your used needles to a fixed site (locations listed on the back) or call Peel Works for a free pick-up.

Never Share: Your needles and vials.

New Equipment: Use new needles and equipment every time you inject.

Keep It Sterile: Wash your hands. Clean the rubber stop on the vial with a new alcohol swab. Clean the injection site with another new alcohol swab.

Safe Disposal: Peel Works provides free sharps containers for used needles. If you don't have a sharps container, put the used needles in a puncture-proof container (e.g. a bleach container) and call for a free pick-up or drop it off at a fixed site (locations listed on the back).

Did You Know?

Injection drug use is the number one mode of hepatitis C transmission and the number two mode of HIV transmission.

Small amounts of blood are often left in used needles, and on equipment such as vials. Sharing needles and equipment for any injection can pass on blood-borne infections such as HIV and hepatitis B and C, if one of the users is infected.