

9/6  
Sent to Nurses

# Disinfect the Diaphragm

“Pop- off” vial caps are just considered “dust covers” on new vials. **The caps do not provide sterile protection to septum or diaphragm underneath it.** The diaphragm must always be disinfected after removing the “pop- off” cap from a new vial before the medication is accessed. APIC states that health care workers should “use friction and a sterile 70% isopropyl alcohol, ethyl alcohol, other approved antiseptic swabs” to the diaphragm after removing the dust cover. <https://www.apic.org>. It is also important to wait 10 seconds after disinfection to allow the diaphragm to dry before accessing medication. <http://www.oneandonlycampaign.org>



“POP-IT”



“TOP- IT”

**SAFETY STEPS**

**FOLLOW THESE INJECTION SAFETY STEPS FOR SUCCESS!**

**Carefully read the label** of the vial of medication.

- If it says single-dose and it has already been accessed (e.g. needle-punctured), **throw it away.**
- If it says multiple-dose, **double-check the expiration date** and the beyond-use date if it was previously opened, and visually inspect to ensure no visible contamination.
- When in doubt, throw it out.

**STANDARD PRECAUTIONS**

- Use aseptic technique.
- Use a new needle and syringe for every injection.

- Be sure to clean your hands immediately before handling any medication.
- Disinfect the medication vial by rubbing the diaphragm with alcohol.
- Draw up all medications in a clean medication preparation area.

Discard all used needles and syringes and SDVs after the procedure is over.

**MDVs should be discarded when:**

- the beyond-use date has been reached
- doses are drawn in a patient treatment area
- any time vial sterility is in question