#### References

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www.scleroseenplaques.ca www.diabete.qc.ca Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue Québec 🏘 🕸

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# SUBCUTANEOUS INJECTIONS

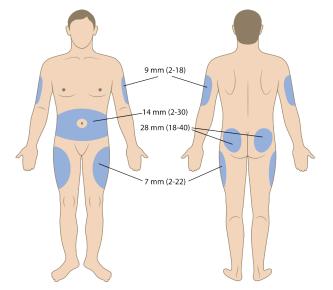


### **NECESSARY SUPPLIES**

- An alcohol pad (or compress soaked with 70% isopropyl alcohol)
- Dry compress
- Sharps disposable container (yellow sharps bin)
- Prefilled syringe or pen

## CHOICE OF INJECTION SITE AND SKIN PREPARATION

- 1. Select an area where the skin is healthy (no bruises, lumps, scars, etc.)
- 2. Rotate injection sites (abdomen, arms, thighs) and return to the same site approximately once every month. Try not to inject twice in the exact same area.
- 3. Select the best area according to the guidelines of your prescribed medication.
- 4. Select the injection site:
  - a. Abdomen: leave a 5cm space around the navel
  - **b.** Arm: upper outer arms
  - c. Thigh: upper outer thighs
  - d. Back: area above the buttocks



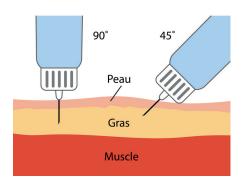
Once site is selected, clean an area of 5 cm with an alcohol pad in a back and forth linear motion.

### IMPORTANT

Let dry completely. Do not blow on, wipe or fan site.

### **INJECTION TECHNIQUE**

- 1. Gently pinch a skin fold between the thumb and index finger of the non dominant hand and measure the fold.
- 2. Remove the needle cap and hold the syringe like a pencil with the dominant hand with the needle facing upwards.
- Quickly and firmly insert the needle in the skin at a 90° or 45° angle according to the length of the needle and thickness of the subcutaneous tissue.
- 4. Release pinched skin.
- 5. Gently inject all medication.
- 6. Remove needle. Do not rub and apply a dry compress to the skin.
- 7. Do not replace the cap on the needle.
- Dispose of the used needle in the proper container (yellow sharps bin: available from the CLSC or pharmacy)
- 9. Use new supplies each time.



### **INJECTION ANGLES**

Angle	Explanation	Slect chosen angle
45°	<ul> <li>Skin fold less than 2,5 cm</li> <li>5/8" needle (16 mm)</li> </ul>	
90°	<ul> <li>Skin fold of ± 5 cm</li> <li>Stretch skin if skin fold is over 5 cm</li> <li>1/2" needle (12 mm)</li> </ul>	

Site rotation is recommended to:

- Prevent loss or an accumulation of fatty tissue
- Minimize injury to skin tissue
- Promote medication absorption
- Reduce discomfort

