



## Reducing the Risk of Coring a Medicine Vial

Incidents of coring of medicine vials have been reported at ADHB. This bulletin aims to provide information on how to minimise the risk of coring and what to do if a medicine vial has been cored.

### What is coring?

Coring occurs when a small piece of rubber stopper is sheared off into the medicine vial when a needle is inserted through it. When this happens, the medicine should be discarded. There may be exceptional circumstances when the medicine could be used with additional precautions such as an in-line filter or filter needle – discuss with your ward Pharmacist.

### Recommended technique to reduce the risk of coring a medicine vial

1. Place the vial on the work area surface. Insert the needle at a 45° to 60° angle with the opening of the needle (bevel) facing up i.e. away from the stopper.



2. Put downward pressure on the needle while gradually bringing the needle up to an upright position.



3. The needle should be at a 90° angle just as the needle bevel passes through the stopper



#### References:

Roth J.V. How to Enter a Medication Vial Without Coring. *Anesthesia & Analgesia*; 104(6):1615

Website: <http://pharmlabs.unc.edu/labs/parenterals/vial.htm>

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