



# SYRINGE FILTER NEEDLES



## Escambia County, Florida - ALS/BLS Medical Protocol

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An ampule is a sealed glass container that resembles a bulb. The ampule is opened by breaking the neck.

This process can cause a shower of glass shards that may be too small to be seen to enter the ampule. Administration of medication with glass shards can result in inflammation of the veins, pulmonary granuloma, infection and even death.

A filter needle contains a membrane that will reduce the chance of glass being introduced into a medication.

**A filter needle will be used to remove medication from an ampule.**

To use:

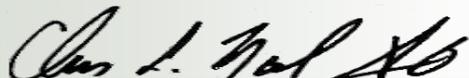
- Place the filter needle on the end of the syringe, leaving the protective cap in place.
- Set the ampule on a flat surface. Tap the top of the ampule so the liquid drains from the neck.
- Wrap a piece of gauze around the neck of the ampule.
- Break the neck of the ampule by applying quick, firm pressure while pointing the ampule away from your body.
- Discard the gauze and ampule neck in a sharps container.
- Remove the protective cover from the needle. Insert the filter needle into the center of the ampule opening.
- Pull back on the plunger to aspirate the medication into the syringe. Keep the tip of the needle below the surface of the liquid.
- Using a "scoop" method, recap the filter needle. The scoop method involves holding the syringe with one hand and sliding the tip of the needle in a cap that is lying on a flat surface. This method allows re-capping and decreases the possibility of an accidental needle stick.



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- Remove the filter needle from the end of the syringe using a twisting motion. Discard the needle in a sharps container.
- Attach a non-filter needle to the end of the syringe that you have filled. Leave the protective sheath in place until the medication is going to be used. If using a needle-less administration port, a port that does not require a needle to access, a non-filter needle does not need to be attached.



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