

NEEDLE AND SYRINGE PROGRAMS (NSPS) IN THE ACT

Needle and Syringe Programs (NSPs) are a public health measure, consistent with ACT Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drug Strategy and the National Drug Strategy's harm minimisation framework, to reduce the spread of infections such as HIV and Hepatitis C among people who inject drugs. They provide a range of services that include provision of sterile injecting equipment, education on reducing drug use, health information, and referral to drug treatment, medical care and legal and social services. The injecting equipment provided includes needles and syringes, swabs, vials of sterile water and 'sharps bins' for the safe disposal of used needles and syringes.

Source: Dolan, K., MacDonald, M., Silins, E. & Topp, L. 2005. *Needle and syringe programs: A review of the evidence*. Canberra: Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

Primary NSPs

Primary NSPs are services dedicated to the provision of an extended range of injecting equipment and other services to people who inject drugs. They deliver information and education on issues relating to injecting drug use and health, and make referrals to a range of health and social services, including drug treatment services.

Source: Commonwealth of Australia. 2010. *National Needle and Syringe Program National Strategic Framework 2010 – 2014*. Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.

PRIMARY NSPS	Open (Monday – Friday)	Close (Monday – Friday)
Civic Health Centre (closes for lunch 1 – 1.30pm) 1 Moore St, Canberra City Ph: (02) 6247 5230	9am	5pm
Phillip Health Centre (closes for lunch 1 – 1.30pm) Cnr Corrina and Keltie St, Woden Ph: (02) 6285 3223	8.30am	5pm

INJECTING EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE AT THE PRIMARY NSPS

Needle and Syringes	Barrels	Tips	Butterfly	Filters	Packs	Other
29G, 1ml	3ml	27G	25G	Blue 0.20	4 packs	Alcohol wipes
27G, 1ml	5ml	25G, 1" and 5/8	23G	Red 1.20	8 packs	Waters
	5ml LL	23G		Brown 5.00		Loose spoons
	10ml	21G		Green 0.80		Tourniquet
	10ml LL	19G				
	20ml					
	20ml LL					

Source: Needle and Syringe Program, DIRECTIONS ACT.

Secondary NSPs

Secondary NSPs operate within an existing health or community service and may provide the same range of services as primary NSPs but typically have a limited capacity to deliver services in addition to injecting equipment and disposal facilities. Secondary NSPs in the ACT only distribute four and eight packs, disposal containers and condoms (not additional specialised equipment available through primary NSPs).

Source: Commonwealth of Australia. 2010. *National Needle and Syringe Program National Strategic Framework 2010 – 2014*. Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.

SECONDARY NSPS	Open (Monday – Friday)	Close (Monday – Friday)
AIDS Action Council ACT Westlund House – 16 Gordon St, Acton Ph: (02) 6257 2855	9am	5pm
Alcohol and Drug Services, Health Directorate Level 1, 1 Moore St, Canberra City Ph: (02) 6207 9977	9am	5pm
Belconnen Health Centre Swanson St and Belconnen Way, Belconnen Ph: (02) 6284 6222	8.30am	5pm
Phillip Health Centre Cnr Corrina and Keltie St, Woden Ph: (02) 6207 9977	8.30am	5pm
Tuggeranong Health Centre Cnr Anketell and Pittman St, Tuggeranong Ph: (02) 6207 9977	8.30am	5pm
Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Services 63 Boolimba Cres, Narrabundah Ph: (02) 6284 6222	9am	5pm

Syringe Vending Machines

Syringe Vending Machines (SVMs) are self-contained units that dispense injecting equipment mostly for a small fee. SVMs operate after NSP service hours or provide 24 hour access to injecting equipment.

Source: Commonwealth of Australia. 2010. National Needle and Syringe Program National Strategic Framework 2010 – 2014. Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.

Belconnen Health Centre:

Cnr Swanson Street and Belconnen Way, Belconnen, Ph: (02) 6207 9977

Civic Health Centre:

1 Moore St, Canberra City, Ph: (02) 6207 9977

Phillip Health Centre:

Cnr Corrina and Keltie St, Woden, Ph: (02) 6207 9977

Tuggeranong Health Centre:

Cnr Anketell and Pittman St, Tuggeranong, Ph: (02) 6207 9977

Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Services:

63 Boolimba Crescent, Narrabundah, Ph: (02) 6284 6222

Pharmacy NSPs

Pharmacy NSPs are community retail pharmacies that distribute a range of injecting equipment. Pharmacy NSPs may be supplied injecting equipment and disposal containers free of charge for either sale or distribution to NSP clients. As with other NSPs, pharmacy NSPs may collect data, and offer disposal facilities, information and referral. Some pharmacy NSPs also dispense opioid substitution treatment.

Source: Commonwealth of Australia. 2010. National Needle and Syringe Program National Strategic Framework 2010 – 2014. Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.

A range of pharmacies participate in the ACT NSP program. Please contact the individual pharmacy for opening hours and further advice as information provided is subject to change:

Ainslie Pharmacy: 7 Edgar St, Ainslie, Ph: (02) 6248 7708

Campbell Pharmacy: 32 Blamey Pl, Campbell, Ph: (02) 6248 0783

Charnwood Capital Chemist: Lotsky St, Charnwood, Ph: (02) 6258 4949

Chisholm Capital Chemist: Benham St, Chisholm, Ph: (02) 6292 2427

City Market Chemmart Chemist: Canberra Centre, Bunda St, Canberra City, Ph: (02) 6249 8074

David Moses Pharmacy: Shop 1, Canberra Arcade, West Row, Canberra City, Ph: (02) 6247 4664

Develins Pharmacy: Garema Place, Canberra City, Ph: (02) 6248 8989

Curtin Capital Chemist: 45 Curtin Pl, Curtin, Ph: (02) 6281 1058

Deakin Pharmacy: 2 Duff Pl, Deakin, Ph: (02) 6281 3420

Fyshwick Pharmacy: 10 Paragon Mall, Fyshwick, Ph: (02) 6280 4074

Higgins Pharmacy: Shop 3, Higgins Pl, Higgins, Ph: (02) 6254 0484

Holder Pharmacy: Blackwood Tce, Holder, Ph: (02) 6288 4888

Hughes Capital Chemist: 22 Hughes Pl, Hughes, Ph: (02) 6281 2581

Kippax Pharmacy: Shop 8, Kippax Centre, Hardwick Cres, Holt, Ph: (02) 6254 8550

Lanyon Australian Pharmacy: Shop 17, Lanyon Market Place, Box Hill Dr, Lanyon, Ph: (02) 6284 8555

Lyneham Capital Chemist: Wattle St, Lyneham, Ph: (02) 6247 7004

Manuka Australian Pharmacy: Shop 8, Manuka Arcade, Franklin St, Manuka, Ph: (02) 6295 0059

Mawson Pharmacy: Shop 9, Mawson Pl, Mawson, Ph: (02) 6286 3737

Narrabundah Pharmacy: 18 Iluka St, Narrabundah, Ph: (02) 6295 8274

Ngunnawal Pharmacy: Shop 5, Wanganeen Ave, Ngunnawal, Ph: (02) 6242 4331

O'Connor Capital Chemist: Sargood St, O'Connor, Ph: (02) 6248 7050

Redhill Pharmacy: Shop 4, Duyfken Pl, Redhill, Ph: (02) 6295 8046

Southlands Capital Chemist: Southland Shopping Centre, Mawson Pl, Mawson, Ph: (02) 6286 3644

Waramanga Capital Chemist: Shop 3, Damala Street and Waramanga Place, Waramanga,
Ph: (02) 6288 1334

Woden Priceline Pharmacy: Westfield, Woden, Ph: (02) 6282 1414

Source: Needle and Syringe Program, DIRECTIONS ACT.

Needle and Syringe Disposal

If you find a needle or syringe (also called a sharp) in a public place or on your private property, call the **Sharps Hotline on 13 22 81**, who will arrange for its collection and disposal.

If you find a sharp, do not touch it, and if possible, stand guard, particularly if there are children around. Be prepared to give the Sharps Hotline accurate information on the location of the item. A City Ranger from ACT Government Territory and Municipal Services will come and pick it up as soon as possible.

Source: Canberra Connect, 2011, *Needle and Syringe Disposal*, ACT Government.