

HARM REDUCTION SUPPLIES - Safer Smoking Supplies

Why provide safer smoking supplies? Sharing smoking equipment can put people at risk for HIV, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C through burns and cuts that may result from smoking.



Glass stem (pyrex) (crack pipe)10mm – used to smoke crack a safer alternative to pipes made of plastic, pop cans or copper which can release toxic fumes when heated or burned. More durable and safer than thin glass pipes made from light bulbs or syringes, which can break easily and lead to cuts.



Meth Pipe: preferred by people who use crystal meth due to the bubble at the end. Provision of meth pipes reduces the use of harmful homemade pipes that may produce toxic fumes or the use of glass stems blown into a thin bubble pipe that may break or shatter during use.



Plastic mouth piece (hose) - plastic mouthpiece goes on the end of the glass stem. Prevents burns and cuts from the pipe. Each person should use their own to prevent disease transmission. Available in varying lengths as per client request –requested lengths vary based on personal preference.



Pipe screens a safer alternative to brillo or steel wool which can break apart and be inhaled, become a choking hazard and can cause burns or cuts. Screens are used to hold the rock of crack cocaine in place near the end of the glass stem (also known as a crack pipe). Screens fit snugly within the stem and are typically made from a small piece of metal with holes to allow for inhalation of crack vapour.



Wooden push sticks – Push sticks are used to pack and position the filter or screen (often brillo) inside the crack pipe. Once the crack has been smoked the push stick is used to move the filter back and forth to partially recover the crack that has hardened on the inside wall of the pipe as the pipe cools. Wooden push sticks are a safer alternative to metal push sticks (i.e. paper clips, nails etc.) which can damage the pipe and increase the risk of breakage.



Vaseline - used to keep lips moist and healthy, prevents cracks and open sores and disease transmission as a result.



Foils - Primarily used for smoking heroin, but can be used to smoke other drugs as well. Foil provision is often seen as an opportunity to promote a switch from injection to smoking which is less harmful.



Alcohol swabs – to clean hands and to wipe down a pipe. Also used to clean an injection site, if injecting drugs. To reduce the risk of transmission a new swab should be used every time.

Safer use pamphlets and additional supply information: <https://towardtheheart.com/safer-use>