



## **Glucose Monitoring Care in Adult Care Facilities: A message from the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene**

Hepatitis B outbreaks have been reported in adult care facilities across the nation due to improper glucometer and fingerstick lancet device usage. The FDA/CDC recommends individual glucometers for each resident as the safest way to prevent transmission of bloodborne hepatitis. In addition fingerstick lancet devices should never be shared between residents.

We administered a survey to NYC licensed adult care facilities or facilities applying to be licensed in 2010. Ninety percent of the facilities provided assistance with blood glucose monitoring. A few of the facilities reported they shared glucometers and fingerstick lancet devices among residents.



### Points to remember

- Never share glucometers or spring-loaded fingerstick devices.
- Label each glucometer and reusable spring-loaded fingerstick device with the person's name.
- Never reuse needles (including needles on insulin pens), syringes, lancets or lancet devices.
- Throw away used lancets immediately after use in a sharps container.
- Wear gloves when performing or assisting with glucometry
- Practice hand hygiene after you remove your gloves (i.e. wash hands or use alcohol based hand rubs)
- Keep unused supplies and medications in clean areas separate from used supplies and equipment (e.g., glucometers). Do not carry supplies and medications in pockets.

\*\*\*If you would like a copy of results from the survey we administered to adult care facilities or if you would like educational posters, brochures, for your facility, please contact 311. You can also find more information at our website: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/cd/cd-healthcare-infections.shtml>