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Daily Reports

THE COMPREHENSIVE SOURCE

Kaiser Daily HIV/AIDS Report

Global Challenges | Czech Republic Launches Automatic Syringe Machines To Curb Spread of HIV, Other Diseases Among IDUs

[Jun 04, 2008]

The Czech Republic recently installed two automatic syringe machines in the capital of Prague in an effort to curb the spread of HIV and other bloodborne diseases among injection drug users, [CTK/Prague Daily Monitor](#) reports. The machines -- the first to be installed in the country -- provide a syringe and disinfection materials for 20 Czech koruna, or about \$1.25. A second packet for 30 koruna, or about \$1.90, also includes clean water, vitamin C and a special substance to dilute drugs. The project was launched by the group [PROGRESSIVE](#) to provide constant access to clean syringes, even if pharmacies are closed. "The use of clean syringes prevents the spreading of infectious diseases, such as hepatitis" and HIV, Vojtech Janouskovec, head of PROGRESSIVE's [No Biohazard](#) program, said. If the pilot project in Prague is successful, it could be expanded to other parts of the country, [CTK/Prague Daily Monitor](#) reports ([CTK/Prague Daily Monitor](#), 6/3).

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