

How to Safely Dispose of your Used Sharps

Acceptable Sharps

- ✓ **Needles** (including Pen needles) used to inject drugs (medication) through the skin.
- ✓ **Syringes** - Devices used to inject medication into or withdraw fluid from the body.
- ✓ **Lancets/Fingerstick Devices** - An instrument with a short, two edged blade used to obtain drops of blood (typically from finger). Does not include drum lancets that self-retract into sealed container.
- ✓ **Single dose auto injectors (Like Epinephrine pen and blood glucose sensors)** - With needle included in device. (Instruments with pre-filled medications designed to be self-administered).
- ✓ **Infusion Set Needles/ Connection Needles** - Needles used with tubing systems to deliver drugs/ fluids to/from the body.

Needlestick injuries from used sharps may cause infections or diseases. If you are stuck, seek immediate medical attention.

Unacceptable Waste

- ✗ Multi-dose auto injector (like insulin pen) with **no** needle.
- ✗ Multi lancet drums with self-retracting needle.
- ✗ PPE (gloves, gowns, masks).
- ✗ Packaging/ garbage/ recycling.
- ✗ Empty vials.
- ✗ Medications/ pill bottles.
- ✗ Waste/ band-aids/ tissue.

*Dispose in garbage/recycling /other programs as appropriate

Sharps should only be placed in a Safe and approved sharps container

- DO NOT put sharps in plastic bottles or jugs.
- DO NOT put sharps in garbage or recycling bags.
- DO NOT flush sharps down the toilet.
- DO NOT try to remove, bend or recap needles used by another person.
- DO NOT put anything but sharps in the sharps containers.
- DO NOT put sharps from medical, dental or veterinary clinics, home care professionals or farms.

Please dispose of your sharps safely. Here's how:

1 Pick up a free Safe Sharps container at your community pharmacy.



For Chronic Use



For Short Term Use

2 Place your used sharps into the Safe Sharps container.



3 When the container is full, return the sealed container to your community pharmacy.