

# How to Dispose of Used Sharps Safely

## What is **acceptable** Sharps Waste?

### Acceptable

- ✓ **Used Needles (including Pen Needles)** - Needles used to inject drugs (medication) under the skin.
- ✓ **Used Syringes** - Devices used to inject medication into or withdraw fluid from the body.
- ✓ **Used Lancets or Fingerstick Devices** - An instrument with a short, two edged blade used to obtain drops of blood (typically from finger).
- ✓ **Used single dose auto injectors** - (Like Epinephrine pen) With needle included in device. (Instruments with pre-filled medications designed to be self-administered).
- ✓ **Used infusion set needles or 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.**

### Not Acceptable

- ✗ Medications & pill bottles.
- ✗ PPE (gloves, gowns, masks).
- ✗ Garbage, Recycling & Packaging.
- ✗ Band aids & tissues.
- ✗ Multi-dose auto injector (like insulin pen) with no needle.

**Sharps should only be placed in a safe & approved sharps container NOT in general garbage.**

**DO NOT** put sharps in plastic bottles or jugs.

**DO NOT** put sharps in garbage or recycling bags.

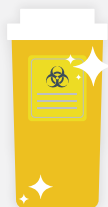
**DO NOT** flush sharps down the toilet.

**DO NOT** try to remove, bend or recap used needles.

**DO NOT** put anything but sharps into a sharps container.

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

- 1 Pick up a sharps container at your community pharmacy.



- 2 Place your used sharps into the container.



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

