

## **Proper Disposal of Sharps**

Used sharps should be placed in sharps containers and taken to appropriate collection sites that may include doctors' offices, hospitals, pharmacies, health departments, fire stations or other locations.

Call the local solid waste department or public health department for information on correct sharps disposal in your area. These may be referred to as drop boxes or supervised collection sites.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist if they offer disposal, or if they know of safe disposal programs in the area.

Visit the <u>States page of EPA's Wastes Web site</u> for links to state health and solid waste/sanitation department contacts.

Visit the <u>US Food & Drug Administration Website</u> which includes information on the laws and regulations affecting the labeling, transportation, and disposal of used needles and other sharps in the community.

If you are still having difficulty finding the right method of disposal that works for you, you may want to look into:

## **Mail-Back Programs**

Patients place their used sharps in special containers and return the container by mail to a collection site for proper disposal. There is usually a fee for this type of service. You may find some mail back options by checking with your health care provider, pharmacist, yellow pages, or searching the Internet using keywords "sharps mail back."

**In California**, we offer a mail-back program for our customers. <u>Click Here</u> to learn more about the program and to register.

If you are a needs-based patient in the <u>Sanofi Patient Connection</u> (SPC) Program, Sanofi also offers needle support for SPC patients. Please contact SPC to learn more. 1-888-847-4877.

**Needle Destruction Devices** Several manufacturers offer products that allow patients to destroy used needles at home by severing, burning or melting the needle, rendering it safe for disposal. Again, check with your pharmacist or search the Internet using keywords "sharps disposal devices." Prices vary.



## **More information**

We suggest starting an internet search with a visit to these websites:

**EPA Sharps Disposal Information:** Disposals of Medical Sharps

<u>California Sharps Disposal Website</u>: Sharps Waste Disposal Information for patients complying with CA sharps disposal law

<u>Massachusetts Sharps Disposal</u>: Including Sharps Information for patients complying with Massachusetts Proper Use and Disposal of Syringes

You may also try searching your state or municipal website for additional information or requirements relating to disposal of medications or sharps.