

# STATE OF CALIFORNIA

## SB 486 SAFE NEEDLE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL PLAN

Three Rivers Pharmaceuticals is committed to serving patients and supporting them in their fight against Hepatitis C. This document sets forth the information and assistance provided to INFERGEN® (interferon alfacon-1) patients on the safe collection and proper disposal of syringes, needles or devices used by patients to self-administer INFERGEN at home.

### **California Household Sharps Waste:**

The State of California has enacted two laws to address home generated sharps disposal. The first law (SB 1305), makes it illegal for any person in California to dispose of home generated sharps waste in the trash or recycling containers, and requires that all sharps waste be transported to a collection center in an approved sharps container. This law became effective September 1, 2008. In 2009, California enacted (SB 486) which requires any pharmaceutical manufacturer that sells or distributes medication that is usually intended for self-injection at home through the use of hypodermic needles and other similar devices to submit to the board, or its successor agency, a plan that describes how the manufacturer supports the safe collection and proper disposal of waste devices. This plan is due on July 1, 2010 and annually thereafter.

### **Collection of Sharps Waste:**

INFERGEN patients who self inject at home are informed and educated on the proper collection and disposal of sharps and injection materials. This information is provided on the INFERGEN website (<http://www.INFERGEN.com>) which contains: a FAQ page and injection instruction video.

For proper collection of syringes, needles or devices, INFERGEN patients are instructed to:

- request a complimentary sharps container (see below)
- place used needles, syringes or devices in a sharps container
- never re-cap syringes, needles or devices
- never recycle sharps collection containers
- never put sharps container in the trash or recycling bins unless permitted by local laws
- never empty sharps container to re-use it
- always keep sharps container out of reach of children

Information regarding the California sharps program may be accessed directly at California's *Calrecycle*: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/HomeHazWaste/sharps/default.htm>. To determine the specific program in your local California area, visit:

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/HomeHazWaste/Sharps/Household.htm>. California has established Sharps and Medication Disposal Facilities in over 550 city and county locations throughout California. To access the drop-off/collection center nearest to you, visit the following site: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/HomeHazWaste/Sharps/Household.htm>.

Other states also have safe household sharps disposal programs. These programs are identified by the [Coalition for Safe Community Needle Disposal](#). Please visit the [Coalition for Safe Community Needle Disposal](#) website (<http://www.safeneedledisposal.org>) for the specific requirements of your state.

Three Rivers provides sharps containers to patients through its INFERGEN® Aspire<sup>SM</sup> support program. Patients who enroll in the Aspire program will receive a Patient Starter Kit which includes one (1) portable sharps container as well as Sharps Proper Disposal Card. The sharps containers may be obtained in the following ways:

- Prescribing doctor can provide one
- Enroll in the INFERGEN® Aspire<sup>SM</sup> Program by calling 1-888-668-3393.

For proper disposal of sharps containers, INFERGEN patients are advised to contact their health care provider.

For information about INFERGEN's indications, full safety information, and Medication Guide, please visit [www.INFERGEN.com](http://www.INFERGEN.com).