



**Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation**  
**Plan for Supporting Safe Collection and Proper Disposal of**  
**Waste Sharps from Self-Injected Home Medications**

**Background**

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation (“Novartis”) supports appropriate and safe disposal of home-generated waste sharps. During the development of innovative home-injectable medicines, Novartis employs safe needle technologies in order to protect patients and individuals assisting in the disposal of waste sharps. Patients who self-inject Novartis products at home receive instructions from their physicians on how to use injection devices properly. Novartis provides physicians with Prescribing Information (PI) instructions for each Novartis product. The Novartis PI’s recommend proper disposal of unused product or waste.

**Regulations**

California: The State of California enacted two laws to address home generated sharps disposal:

- Senate Bill 1305 prohibits on, or after September 1, 2008, home generated waste sharps to be included in the household trash or recycling containers and requires all sharps waste to be transported in an approved sharps container to a collection center.
- Senate Bill 486 (SB 486) requires that, on or before July 1, 2010, and annually thereafter, pharmaceutical manufacturers that sell or distribute medication that is self-injected at home through the use of hypodermic needles and other similar devices (i.e., sharps) submit to CalRecycle a plan

that describes how the manufacturer supports the safe collection and proper disposal of the used sharps.

Minnesota: The State of Minnesota enacted Senate Bill 1323 which requires that a manufacturer that sells or distributes sharps usually intended for home use post on its website, prior to July 1, 2011, a plan that describes how the manufacturer supports the safe collection and proper disposal of sharps.

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation has developed this Plan for Supporting Safe Collection and Proper Disposal of Waste Sharps from Self-Injected Home Medications (the "Plan") to meet the requirements of California's SB 486 and Minnesota's SB 1323.

### **Education and Outreach**

Novartis will include a copy of this Plan on the following internet site

<http://www.pharma.us.novartis.com/info/corporate-responsibility/business-conduct/state-laws/index.jsp> in order to educate patients and the public regarding the proper disposal of waste sharps.

### **Collection**

Proper collection of waste sharps includes:

- Place waste sharps in a sharps container such as a red biohazard container, hard plastic containers such as detergent bottles or metal containers such as an empty coffee can. Do not use glass or clear plastic containers.
- Seal the container using heavy duty tape and properly dispose of it;
- Do not re-cap waste sharps;
- Do not recycle waste sharps collection containers;
- Do not put waste sharps containers in the trash or recycling bins;
- Keep these containers out of the reach of children and pets.

## **Disposal**

Patients and consumers have several options available to them to safely dispose sharps waste.

Patients in California may visit California's CalRecycle web site at <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/homehazwaste/sharps/household.htm> to become familiar with all disposal options available and select the option that is most convenient. Below is a summary of the disposal options detailed on the California CalRecycle website:

1. Patients may use the [The Sharps and Medication Disposal Directory](#) to identify the locations of over 550 sites where sharps containers can be properly disposed. Patients can access this searchable database via the California CalRecycle Website or by clicking on this [Link](#).
2. Patients may contact their health care provider or pharmacist for information on where to bring waste sharps.
3. Patients may contact their local household hazardous waste agency and ask if they collect sharps at their collection facilities or on household hazardous waste days.

Patients in Minnesota may visit the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) website for information and guidance pertaining to safe disposal options for needles and syringes. Patients can access this information by clicking on this [Link](#).

## **Other Resources**

The United States Food and Drug Administration also provides information to patients and caregivers on the safe disposal of needles and other sharps on a website that is accessible by clicking this [Link](#).

## **Company Contact Information**

If you have any questions about how to dispose of your Novartis injection device, please call Novartis at 1-888-NOW-NOVA (1-888-669-6682).

## **Future Updates**

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation remains committed to help facilitate the safe disposal of its products and will continue to evaluate feedback and make modifications to our Plan as needed. This Plan will be updated annually and submitted to CalRecycle on July 1<sup>st</sup> in accordance with the requirements of California's SB 486. In addition, updates to the Plan will be posted on the Novartis website in accordance with Minnesota's SB 1323.