



## Safe Collection and Disposal of Home Generated Sharps Waste (SB486)

Proper disposal of home-generated sharps waste is an important component of InterMune's medical waste management program. This document provides guidance to our patients for the proper collection and disposal of needles generated following injection. We encourage all Actimmune patients to educate themselves on the particular requirements of their local/state jurisdiction and to properly dispose of their sharps waste.

This document will provide links to established home-generated sharps waste programs. Individual inquiries may be addressed to [sharpswaste@InterMune.com](mailto:sharpswaste@InterMune.com) or Tel: (415) 466-2200 Fax: (415) 466-2300.

### **California Household Sharps Waste**

For California residents, new requirements for collection and disposal are now in place (SB1305). Information regarding the California program may be accessed directly at the State's *Calrecycle*: [www.calrecycle.ca.gov/HomeHazWaste/sharps/](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/HomeHazWaste/sharps/). To ascertain the specific program in your local area, visit the site above and type in [Household Sharps Waste Disposal >Local Jurisdiction Sharps Collection Programs](#).

For the safety of family members and others handling and processing household trash, California prohibits home-generated sharps to be included in regular trash streams. The State 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, go to [www.calrecycle.ca.gov/HomeHazWaste/sharps/](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/HomeHazWaste/sharps/). Type in [Household Sharps Waste Disposal >Sharps & Medication Disposal Directory](#).

Another option for disposing your needle waste is through the US Postal Service. Several organizations provide specific containers that are mailed back to an approved disposal site. Below please find the list of approved service providers (2009):

Enserv, LLC : [www.medserve.com](http://www.medserve.com) (713) 580-4000

EnviroMed Safety & Compliance: [www.enviromedinc.com](http://www.enviromedinc.com) (877) 340-2430

XMED Disposal, Inc.: [www.xmeddisposal.com](http://www.xmeddisposal.com) (866) 735-9709

GRP & Associates: [www.sharpsdisposal.com](http://www.sharpsdisposal.com) (800) 207-0976

Sharps Compliance, Inc.: [www.sharpsinc.com](http://www.sharpsinc.com) (800) 772-5657

Stericycle, Inc.: [www.stericycle.com/mailback\\_programs/sharps.html](http://www.stericycle.com/mailback_programs/sharps.html) (800) 355-8773 or (800) 527-0666

WM (Waste Management Healthcare Solutions): [www.healthcare.wm.com](http://www.healthcare.wm.com) (866) 803-7561

WCM (Waste & Compliance Management, Inc.) Home Sharps Disposal:  
[www.homesharpsdisposal.com](http://www.homesharpsdisposal.com) (877) 436-5480

A current list and more information are available from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). Visit CDPH on line at: [www.cdph.ca.gov](http://www.cdph.ca.gov) > Certificates *an Licenses* > [Medical Waste](#) > [Mail-Back Sharps Systems](#)

If you would like assistance from InterMune in identifying your specific options, contact the Household Sharps Waste Disposal representative at: [sharpswaste@InterMune.com](mailto:sharpswaste@InterMune.com) or Tel: (415) 466-2200 Fax: (415) 466-2300.

### **Collection of Sharps Waste**

Proper collection begins immediately following injection. Follow these steps:

1. Immediately following injection, place the used needle and syringe in a California or FDA approved “sharps container” such as these:



2. Proper containers are secure, leak-proof and puncture-resistant. More information regarding FDA-approved containers can be found at the FDA Medical Devices Database—search “sharps containers”
3. Containers are labeled with the international biohazard symbol and the word “biohazard”.
4. When full, the lid should be tight and/or taped closed. Containers should not be held at home longer than 30 days.

### **National Programs for Household Sharps Waste**

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 for the specific requirements of your state.



### **General Sharps Waste Handling Guidelines**

If your state does not have specific guidance for sharps management, the EPA has issued the following guidance regarding at-home syringe disposal:

1. Place needles and syringes in a hard plastic or metal container with a screw-on cap or tightly secure lid.
2. Reinforce the lid of the container with heavy-duty tape.
3. Label the container "Do Not Recycle."
4. Do not place the container with materials to be recycled.
5. Do not use containers made of glass or clear plastic.
6. Keep these containers out of the reach of children and pets.

For further information contact: [sharpswaste@InterMune.com](mailto:sharpswaste@InterMune.com) or Tel: (415) 466-2200 Fax: (415) 466-2300.