



***Plan for Support of Safe Collection and Proper Disposal of
Waste From Self-Injected Home Medications Including Sharps***

***Submitted to the California Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery
(CalRecycle)
June 30, 2010***

Sanofi-aventis U.S. LLC, on behalf of itself and its affiliate, sanofi-aventis U.S. Inc. (collectively “sanofi-aventis”) submits the following plan describing how sanofi-aventis supports the safe collection and proper disposal of waste from self-injected at home medications that include sharps.

This report is submitted consistent with the requirements of Chapter 1 of Part 7 of Division 30 of the Public Resources Code, beginning with Section 47115 for the limited number of prescription drug products for at-home use that include, or utilize a separate, hypodermic needle, pen needle, intravenous needle or similar device.

Sanofi-aventis has sought input from patients regarding disposal of medical sharps and suggestions for support of proper disposal. Preliminary results of questions relating to sharps disposal from 100 patients in quantitative research conducted for sanofi-aventis in late 2009 indicated that most patients reported proper disposal of their medical sharps.

As an initial matter, it is important to note that physicians, health care providers and Certified Diabetes Educators (CDE) play an important role in instructing patients on self-injection, and routinely include proper needle disposal as part of the education effort. During 2009, sanofi-aventis U.S. CDEs held approximately 900 education/training sessions including approximately 4,600 patients in California alone.

Information about prescription drugs also appears in the product labeling regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), including information about any devices used to deliver medication such as the following example: “Disposable needles should be used only once. Used needle should be placed in sharps containers (such as red biohazard containers), hard plastic containers (such as detergent bottles), or metal containers (such as an empty coffee can). Such containers should be sealed and disposed of properly.”

For patients first receiving medication in the hospital or institutional setting, sanofi-aventis has developed discharge kits for patients who receive our products in this setting. These discharge kits include a sharps container for patients receiving medication involving use of a sharp. Patient Information (PI) is included with each sanofi-aventis drug prescription (and posted on the product website) and includes direction to dispose of sharps properly. Sanofi-aventis has staff Certified Diabetes Educators who also provide a message of proper disposal of sharps as part of new patient training which includes providing this information in disease reference guides given to the patients.

Finally, we are launching a page on our Internet site relating to proper disposal of sharps and prescription medicines. This educational effort provides resources for information about sharps disposal, including a link to the CalRecycle website that provides specific information on sharps disposal and a county by county guide for disposal of sharps in California. <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/HomeHazWaste/Sharps/Household.htm>

We believe that proper sharps disposal is a multi-faceted issue and any comprehensive improvement recommendations should involve input from all stakeholders including patients, healthcare professionals, product manufacturers and waste management/disposal representatives.