

NOVO NORDISK INC.

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

California Public Resources Code Sections 47115-47116:
Required Reporting by Pharmaceutical Manufacturers
Novo Nordisk Inc.

Background Information

Headquartered in Denmark, Novo Nordisk is a global health care company with nearly a century of innovation and achievement in diabetes care. Our portfolio of diabetes treatments and delivery systems is one of the most comprehensive available. In everything we do, we are committed to driving change for people affected by diabetes. This heritage has given us experience and capabilities that also enable us to help people defeat other serious chronic conditions: hemophilia, growth disorders, and obesity. With U.S. headquarters in Plainsboro, N.J., Novo Nordisk Inc. has more than 5,000 employees in the United States. For more information, visit novonordisk.us.

Novo Nordisk's product portfolio includes several injectable medications (in both vial and pen device) that require the use of needles, as well as pen needles. More information about Novo Nordisk and our products available in the United States can be found by visiting novonordisk.us.

Under California and Minnesota law, pharmaceutical manufacturers like Novo Nordisk are required to provide a description of the actions, if any, that they have taken to support the safe collection and proper disposal of sharps, which include needles, pen needles and similar devices, used with medications intended to be self-injected at home. Senate Bill 486, Code sections 47115 – 47116; Minnesota 2010, Chapter 286, S.F. No. 1323. A copy of this report can be accessed at <http://www.novonordisk-us.com/whoweare/about-novo-nordisk/our-commitment-to-business-excellence/product-disposal.html>

Safe Collection and Proper Disposal of Our Products

Novo Nordisk is committed to and encourages the safe and proper disposal of our products by patients. Our injectable medicines are all distributed with FDA-approved instructions for use that educate patients regarding the proper disposal of our products after use, including directing them to any state or local laws governing disposal. For instance, for NovoLog®, one of our insulin products, the patient instructions accompanying the product include the following disposal information:



For vials: “Throw away empty insulin vials, used syringes, and needles in a sharps container or some type of hard plastic or metal container with a screw on cap such as a detergent bottle or empty coffee can. Check with your healthcare provider about the right way to throw away the container. There may be local or state laws about how to throw away used syringes and needles. Do not throw away used syringes and needles in household trash or recycling bins.”

For pen device: “Remove the needle from the NovoLog® FlexPen® after each injection and dispose of it. This helps to prevent infection, leakage of insulin, and will help to make sure you inject the right dose of insulin. If you do not have a sharps container, carefully slip the needle into the outer needle cap. Safely remove the needle and throw it away as soon as you can. Put your used NovoLog® FlexPen® and needles in a FDA-cleared sharps disposal container right away after use. Do not throw away (dispose of) loose needles and Pens in your household trash. If you do not have a FDA-cleared sharps disposal container, you may use a household container that is: made of a heavy-duty plastic; can be closed with a tight-fitting, puncture-resistant lid, without sharps being able to come out; upright and stable during use; leak-resistant; properly labeled to warn of hazardous waste inside the container. When your sharps disposal container is almost full, you will need to follow your community guidelines for the right way to dispose of your sharps disposal container. There may be state or local laws about how you should throw away used needles and syringes.”

Disposal information for our injectable products is also accessible on our product-specific websites for both consumers and healthcare providers. We also provide instructions for the disposal of our diabetes pen needle products on the patient website:

Disposing of needles responsibly.

Used needles should never be thrown away with ordinary trash. Doing so could lead to accidental needlesticks. Instead, dispose of them in a special “sharps” container, or a puncture-proof, clearly marked container, like an empty detergent bottle. Dispose of them in accordance with your local health regulations. Needles like NovoFine® Autocover® are designed with a safety shield, which helps prevent accidental needlesticks; however, all needles should be disposed of as outlined above.

<http://www.novoneedles.com/know-your-needles.html>

As noted in the patient instructions above, Novo Nordisk markets the NovoFine® Autocover® needle, which has a protective shield that retracts during injection. After injection, the shield re-covers the needle and locks back into place, which may help reduce the risk of accidental needlesticks and needle reuse. Once the shield locks, the needle cannot be reused.

Additional Novo Nordisk Resources Available

The patient instructions for use that accompany our injectable products also direct patients that have further questions regarding appropriate sharps disposal, including disposal under state/local laws, to the FDA Website: <http://www.fda.gov/safesharpsdisposal>.

In addition, Novo Nordisk provides a free patient support program called Cornerstones4Care®. Through this program, which offers educational tools and resources, patients are provided information on safe needle disposal. Please see <https://www.cornerstones4care.com/medicine/what-to-do/using-and-taking-care-of-your-medicine.html>.

Novo Nordisk also employs a team of educators - many of whom are trained as CDEs or nurses - who provide education to HCP offices and patients, including on the safe and proper use and disposal of sharps by patients.

Additional Novo Nordisk Stewardship Efforts

Novo Nordisk is a member of the Pharmaceutical Product Stewardship Work Group (PPSWG). As part of PPSWG, Novo Nordisk supports PPSWG efforts to comply with local requirements regarding the collection and disposal of sharps. PPSWG is also engaged in efforts to educate Californians on the safe disposal of pharmaceutical products and sharps.

Novo Nordisk is also partnering with AdvaMed (Advanced Medical Technology Association) to provide educational materials around the safe disposal of SHARPs.

In conclusion, Novo Nordisk actively supports the safe collection and disposal of its products, including needles.

