

Safe Handling and Disposal of Sharps  
California Public Resources Code Sections 47115-47116  
Minnesota Statute Section 116.835  
Required Disclosure by Pharmaceutical Manufacturers  
Novo Nordisk Inc.

# **NOVO NORDISK INC.**

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



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### **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, NJ, Novo Nordisk Inc. has more than 5,000 employees in the United States. For more information, visit <https://www.novonordisk-us.com>.

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 <https://www.novonordisk-us.com>.

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. A copy of this report can be accessed at [https://www.novonordisk-us.com/content/dam/nncorp/us/en\\_us/homepage/pdfs/NNI%20ProductDisposal.pdf](https://www.novonordisk-us.com/content/dam/nncorp/us/en_us/homepage/pdfs/NNI%20ProductDisposal.pdf).

### **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. Information on proper disposal of our products is included within the prescribing information for each product, all of which can be accessed at <https://www.novonordisk-us.com/products/diabetes.html>.

Novo Nordisk also offers a free of charge home generated medical sharps containment and disposal system to CA and MN residents using our product portfolio. These services are also made available by Novo Nordisk to patients in other states. Patients may visit <https://www.novocare.com/diabetes-overview/let-us-help/safe-disposal.html> to register or dial 1-888-905-0135 for more information. Due to federal privacy regulations patients are encouraged to use the website for registration with phone support available to those lacking Internet access. The containers are sent directly to the home of patients and include instructions on how to return the container free of charge for proper handling and disposal when full.

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.

Further information on proper disposal of needles can also be accessed at: <http://www.novoneedles.com/know-your-needles.html>.

### **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:

<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/consumer-products/safely-using-sharps-needles-and-syringes-home-work-and-travel>.

In addition, Novo Nordisk offers a patient support program which provides patients with information on safe needle disposal. Please see

<https://www.novocare.com/diabetes-overview/let-us-help/safe-disposal.html>.

Novo Nordisk also employs a team of educators – many of whom are trained as Certified Diabetes Educators or nurses – who provide education to HCP offices and patients regarding 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 also partners with other manufacturers and others in supporting the NeedyMeds sponsored [safeneedledisposal.org](https://safeneedledisposal.org) website. NeedyMeds is a not for profit 501(c)(3). The [safeneedledisposal.org](https://safeneedledisposal.org) portal provides patients and health professionals with up to date information on proper instruction on used needle and medical sharps used in the home disposal. The [safeneedledisposal.org](https://safeneedledisposal.org) site is directly linked to from the [novocare.com/needledisposal](https://novocare.com/needledisposal) site given its useful information including references to state laws governing proper home generated medical sharps disposal.

Novo Nordisk is also a member of AdvaMed (Advanced Medical Technology Association), a national membership trade association of medical device manufacturers, which also provides educational materials around the safe disposal of medical sharps used in the home. In conclusion, Novo Nordisk actively supports the safe collection and disposal of our product portfolio and provides a free means



for patients using our products throughout California to properly dispose of their home generated medical sharps.