

MEDICAL WASTE DISPOSAL GUIDE

(Appendix A)

PHARMACEUTICAL (PHARM) WASTE		
GENERATORS	REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS	DISPOSAL
HOUSEHOLD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hazardous Waste Pharmaceutical & Medical Waste Pharmaceuticals generated by households are not regulated under the Hazardous Waste or Medical Waste laws except for sharps disposal (see SHARPS Household below). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <u>Required:</u> No disposal requirements but best management practices are encouraged.* ➤ <u>Preferred:</u> Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility
CESQG (Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator) - Hazardous waste < 100kg/month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pharm-waste that meet Resource Conservation & Recovery Act (RCRA) criteria and those that meet California-only Hazardous Waste criteria (Title 22), will be regulated under the California Medical Waste Management Act (MWMA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ HHW or Medical Waste disposal facility
SQG (Small Quantity Generator) - Hazardous waste ≥100 kg but <1000 kg/month Medical waste < 200 lbs/month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hazardous Waste Pharmaceutical & Medical Waste Pharmaceuticals regulated under RCRA law and California Hazardous Waste Code (Title 22) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals <u>must</u> go to a State permitted Hazardous Waste Facility
LQG (Large Quantity Generator) - Hazardous waste ≥1000 kg/month Medical waste ≥ 200 lbs/month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non – RCRA (California only) Pharmaceutical Waste regulated by California MWMA as a Biohazard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Medical Waste Pharmaceutical (non-RCRA) <u>must</u> go to a State permitted Medical Waste facility
SHARPS		
HOUSEHOLD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulated as Medical Waste under California MWMA. Law amended in 2008 to prohibit disposal of household generated sharps into municipal solid waste stream. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ HHW Facility; ➤ Home-generated sharps consolidation point; ➤ Medical Waste generator's facility; ➤ Medical Waste mail-back facility
SQG & LQG SQG < 200 lbs/month LQG ≥ 200 lbs/month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulated as Medical Waste under California MWMA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Via registered medical waste hauler; ➤ At offsite Medical Waste treatment facility; ➤ Alternative treatment technology (e.g. encapsulation); ➤ Medical Waste mail-back facility

*Best management includes *not* disposing of pharm-waste down the drain, and various strategies to prevent tampering of pharm-waste after it has been thrown away by rendering it unusable prior to disposal.