

# JUVENILE COURT HEALTH SERVICES PHARMACY PROCEDURES

Subject: <b>DISPOSITION OF OUTDATED, DAMAGED DRUGS</b>  (Y-D-01, Compliance Indicator #3)	Original Issue Date: 12/31/07	Procedure # <b>008</b>
	Supersedes: 7/1/11	Effective Date: 1/29/13
Departments Consulted:  DHS Pharmacy Affairs	Approved By:  (Signature on File) Pharmacy Supervisor  (Signature on File) Medical Director	Approved by:  (Signature on File) Health Services Administrator

## PURPOSE

Policy addressing the proper disposal of non-returnable medications, biologicals, and other medical (pharmaceutical)/bio-hazardous material returned to the Pharmacy salvage area will be accomplished via the interdepartmental coordination between Pharmacy, Nursing and a contracted outside vendor.

## PROCEDURE

Outdated, deleted from formulary, and recalled medications are to be returned to respective manufacturer for credit, according to manufacturer's return/credit policy or disposed via contracted outside vendor(s).

### On the Patient Unit/Clinic:

1. Pharmaceutical waste (any unused, outdated, contaminated, or deteriorated medication) will be contained separately from other medical waste at the point of generation. A hard plastic, rigid, puncture-resistant, leak resistant, and sealable pharmaceutical waste container with an absorbent will be utilized for all discarded medications (e.g., tablets/capsules; partial vials).
2. Any pharmaceutical waste shall be brought to the pharmacy for disposition/destruction. It shall be the Nursing Department's responsibility to identify any outdated, contaminated, or deteriorated drug, and transport said drug to the Pharmacy. Drugs containing an expiration date that includes only a month and year are considered expired on the last day of the month. For example, a drug with an expiration date of 1/07 would be considered expired on January 31, 2007.
3. All legend drugs shall be considered outdated if they do not bear an expiration date on the container. The United States Pharmacopeia USP XX General Notices states that the labels of all Pharmacopeial dosage forms bear an expiration date. Human OTC drug products are not required to bear an expiration date if:
  - A. The labeling does not bear dosage limitations statements.

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- B. Products are stable for at least three years, as supported by appropriate stability data. (An example of this type of product is Rubbing Alcohol.)
4. Empty glass vials or vials with trace amounts of contents must be placed in a Sharp's container (except for vials with hazardous medications, which should be placed in the pharmaceutical waste container).
- A. A container (vial, bottle, syringe, etc.) is defined as empty if the following conditions are met:
- If the material which the container or inner liner held is pourable, no material can be poured or drained from the container or inner liner when held in any orientation, including, but not limited to, when tilted or inverted.
  - If the material which the container or inner liner held is not pourable, no material or waste remains in the container or inner liner that can feasibly be removed.
- B. A mixture of non-hazardous pharmaceutical waste and hazardous pharmaceutical waste will be considered hazardous waste, treated as hazardous waste, and placed in the hazardous waste container. Personal protective equipment (PPE) should be used when handling hazardous waste
5. Empty plastic vials or plastic vials with trace amounts of contents are to be discarded as regular waste (except for vials with hazardous medications, which should be placed in the pharmaceutical waste container).
- A. A container is defined as empty if the following conditions are met:
- If the material which the container or inner liner held is pourable, no material can be poured or drained from the container or inner liner when held in any orientation, including, but not limited to, when tilted or inverted.
  - If the material which the container or inner liner held is not pourable, no material or waste remains in the container or inner liner that can feasibly be removed.
- B. A mixture of non-hazardous pharmaceutical waste and hazardous pharmaceutical waste will be considered hazardous waste, treated as hazardous waste, and placed in the hazardous waste stream. Personal protective equipment (PPE) should be used when handling hazardous waste.
6. Any unused patient specific controlled substances will be returned to the pharmacy for disposition.
- A. Unused controlled substances may only be returned to a pharmacist. No other staff are authorized to receive these medications from the halls or psychiatric camps.
- B. Unused medications will be kept in a locked cabinet until receipt by a pharmacist is possible.

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7. Excess medication from tubexes, syringes, or ampules will be discarded in the pharmaceutical waste container in its original container, vial, syringe, etc.
8. Aerosolized pharmaceuticals will be sent to the Pharmacy separately from the pharmaceutical waste for disposition.
9. All bulk discarded partially used medications in containers, e.g. external topicals, will be sent to the Pharmacy for disposition.
10. All non-returnable drugs and supplies will be separated, properly labeled as either pharmaceutical or hazardous waste, and secured in the designated Pharmacy area. The accumulation area utilized by Pharmacy to store containers of pharmaceutical waste will be secured to prevent or deny access by unauthorized persons.
11. The contracted pharmaceutical reverse distributor vendor is responsible for the disposal of non-returnable and medical (pharmaceutical)/bio-hazardous waste drugs. The vendor will pick up the medical (pharmaceutical)/bio-hazardous waste from Pharmacy and deliver the materials to their facility. The contracted vendor facility meets or exceeds state and federal regulations for clean air and environmental standards. All required documents are filed with the appropriate agency and copies will be sent to the facility.
  - A. The reverse-distributor vendor possesses permits and licenses from the following:
    - a. DEA
    - b. Respective State Department of Health
    - c. EPA Hazardous Waste Generator
    - d. Wholesaler
  - B. Reverse distributor vendors include (but not limited to)
    - a. Inmar Pharmaceutical Returns
    - b. Stericycle, Inc.

### REFERENCE

JCHS Policy # D-102, "Disposal of Outdated Medication"