#### WHAT ARE SHARPS?

Sharps is a medical term for a device with sharp points or edges that puncture or cut skin. They include:

NEEDLES
SYRINGES
LANCETS
FINGERPRICK DEVICES
AUTO INJECTORS
INFUSION SETS
CONNECTION NEEDLES



Medical sharps should not be disposed of in garbage or recycling. Look inside to learn how to dispose of sharps safely.

The Safe Sharps Bring Back
Program is for pharmacy patients'
residential use only. The program
DOES NOT include used sharps
from medical, dental or veterinary
clinics, home care professionals,
farms, or other community
providers. To properly dispose of
these types of sharps, please
contact the respective professional
association.

Sharps generated by intravenous drug use are not included in the program, but can be disposed of or exchanged by contacting either of the following:

**Mainline Needle Exchange** (902) 423-9991 | 1 (800) 904-4555

Northern Health Connections Society (902) 895-0931 | (902) 956-3965



Learn More

Needlestick injuries from used sharps may cause infection or disease. If you are struck by someone else's sharp, seek immediate medical attention.



A program supporting pharmacy patients using medical sharps.



# **DISPOSING SHARPS SAFELY**

### SAFE SHARPS BRING BACK PROGRAM FOR PHARMACY

Pick up a **Safe Sharps** container at your community pharmacy when you get your prescription that requires the use of medical sharps.



Place your used sharps into the **Safe Sharps** container.



When the **Safe Sharps** container has reached full line, seal and return to your community pharmacy.

### ACCEPTABLE SHARPS WASTE FOR SAFE SHARPS CONTAINER

- Used Needles
  - including Pen Needles
- Used Syringes
- Used Lancets or Fingerstick Devices
  - Note: lancets that self-retract into a sealed container should be disposed of in the garbage
- Used single dose auto injectors (ie: EpiPen) with needle included in device
- Used infusion set needles or connection needles
- Sharps containing any type of medication

# UNACCEPTABLE WASTE FOR SAFE SHARPS CONTAINER

(dispose of items in garbage)



- PPE (gloves, gowns, masks)
- Band aids & tissues
- Multi-dose auto injector (ie: insulin pen) with no needle
- Multi-lancet drums with self-retracting needle
- Empty Vials
- Continuous Glucose Monitor Inserter
- Infusion set tubing



Carelessly discarded sharps can endanger the well-being of those handing and sorting the waste. Use a **Safe Sharps** container for your safety and the safety of others.

DON'T put sharps in plastic bottles or jugs. | DON'T put sharps in garbage or recycling bags. | DON'T flush sharps down the toilet. | DON'T try to remove, bend or re-cap needles used by another person. | DON'T put anything but sharps in sharps containers.