Background

At Organon LLC (“Organon”), we are dedicated to our vision of a healthier every day for women, their families, and their communities. This includes supporting the safe and appropriate disposal of home-generated sharps waste. This “Safe Sharps Disposal Plan” details Organon’s current sharps disposal program for patients who self-inject Organon medicines at home.

The state of California has enacted laws that address management of home-generated sharps waste. Specifically, pharmaceutical manufacturers that sell or distribute medication that is self-injected at home through the use of hypodermic needles and other similar devices (i.e., sharps) submit to CalRecycle a plan that describes how the manufacturer supports the safe collection and proper disposal of the used sharps, and post that plan on its website. 30 Pub. Res. Code § 47000 – 47550. Minnesota also has enacted a law that requires that manufacturers of products that can be self-injected at home post a plan for safe collection and proper disposal of sharps on their website. Minn. Stat. Ann. § 116.835.

Pursuant to California and Minnesota law, this “Safe Sharps Disposal Plan” is posted on Organon’s Policies and Positions website: https://www.organon.com/about-organon/policies-disclosures/

Applicability

Organon manufactures certain medicines that a patient may self-inject at home at the direction of a healthcare provider. A patient’s understanding of the appropriate methods by which to dispose of the resulting home-generated sharps waste is an important part of such therapeutic regimens for the patient. Therefore, Organon supports the safe management of used sharps for its injectable medicines as described below.

Sharps Management

Some of Organon’s fertility treatments utilize pen injectors for multiple use or single use, pre-filled syringes, and standard syringes for single-use products which may be self-injected at home. Organon provides guidance to healthcare providers and patients on the safe and appropriate methods for disposal of home-injected sharps.

As part of the therapy support, the healthcare provider is advised to discuss the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved administration of the Organon treatment with the patient, which includes discussion of the proper procedures for the disposal of home-generated sharps, such as used needles and syringes. In addition to healthcare provider discussions, information on the safe and appropriate disposal of home-injected sharps is provided on product inserts as well as the patient instructions for administering the injectable products. The detailed patient information sheet also instructs the patient not to dispose of needles in household trash.

In addition, the design of certain products facilitates the proper disposal of home-injected sharps. Injectable pens use the Outer Needle Shield safe sharps technology to allow for the removal of the needle from the pen so the needle can be disposed of appropriately.
Additional Resources for Home-Injected Sharps Disposal

Doctors, nurse trainers, call center staff, and patients have access to www.safeneedledisposal.org. This website provides a summary of state requirements for disposal of home-generated sharps, with links to state programs.

Patients in California may visit CalRecycle’s Household Sharps Waste Disposal website for information and guidance pertaining to the safe disposal of sharps waste.

Patients in Minnesota may also visit the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency website for information and guidance pertaining to safe disposal.

The FDA has provided guidance on how to dispose of sharps.

If you have any questions about how to safely and appropriately dispose of any Organon products that were self-injected at home, please call the Organon Service Center at 1-844-674-3200.