Sharps Disposal

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safely drop off sharps containers, exchanging their full ones for sanitized empty containers to take home with them. Many states, cities, pharmacies, and healthcare providers now maintain bins where users can safely drop off sharps containers. As syringe and insulin pen tips use increases nationwide, there are more and more options for picking up or dropping off sharps containers. Many states, cities, pharmacies, and healthcare providers now maintain bins where users can safely drop off sharps containers, exchanging their full ones for sanitized empty containers to take home with them.

Fortunately, modern technology has created strong, standardized plastic containers that prevent accidental pricks by using a diagnostically advanced over the past decade. Syringes are available at a value price and less painful, with far more users as type 2 diabetes reaches almost epidemic proportions. The result is a huge disposal problem.

Sharps containers range from single-use shuttles to large multi-gallon containers used in hospital and institutional settings. Smaller-capacity containers, usually with capacities measured in less than a gallon, are aimed at the home user and self-injectors. A typical example would be BD's Home Sharps Container for insulin syringes, pen needles, and lancets. It can hold 70-100 insulin syringes or up to 300 pen needles. Leak- and puncture-resistant. Snap lock lid. Sharps containers range from single-use shuttles to large multi-gallon containers used in hospital and institutional settings. Smaller-capacity containers, usually with capacities measured in less than a gallon, are aimed at the home user and self-injectors. A typical example would be BD’s Home Sharps Container for insulin syringes, pen needles, and lancets. It can hold 70-100 insulin syringes or up to 300 pen needles. Leak- and puncture-resistant. Snap lock lid.

Sizes and Types

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Manufacturers

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REMIS/STERICYCLE
www.stericycle.com/sharps-disposal-containers
The company’s sharps container suppliers include name brands, such as Bemis/Stericycle, BD, Hospitec, and Kendall.

BD
www.bd.com/diabetes
BD’s Home Sharps Container is for insulin syringes, pen needles, and lancets. It can hold 70-100 insulin syringes or up to 300 pen needles. Leak- and puncture-resistant. Snap lock lid.

MEDLINE
www.medline.com/category/Sharps-Containers/cat/1470091
Medline sells its own line of sharps containers, as well as containers from other sources, such as Kendall, Becton Dickinson (BD), and Sharps Compliance, Inc.

SHARPS COMPLIANCE, INC.
www.sharpsinc.com/
Sharps Compliance offers a unique mail-back program where self-injectors can dispose of their sharps in containers provided by the company and then mail them safely back to the manufacturer. The program eliminates worries about where to find authorized disposal sites.

ULTIMED
www.ulticare.com/
Under its UltiCare unit, UltiMed sells the UltiGuard® Safe Pack, which comes packed with 100 pen needles or syringes. Once a needle has been used, the user drops it in the top, where it drops and rolls safely out the way, eliminating the need for a separate sharps container.

Printer-friendly charts are available at www.DiabetesHealth.com/charts

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For people with diabetes who use injectable medications, safe sharps disposal is an essential part of their self-care routine. This has become very important as syringe technology has dramatically advanced over the past decade. Syringes are available at a value price and less painful, with far more users as type 2 diabetes reaches almost epidemic proportions. The result is a huge disposal problem.

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Severe Hypoglycemia

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Introduction

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GVOKE™ and BAQSIMI™: Two Important New Solutions to Glucagon Delivery

Diabetes patients have witnessed many technological leaps forward through the years—blood glucose monitors, long-lasting insulin; insulin pumps offering the person with diabetes more flexibility and the ability to be discreet. The latest breakthrough is one that addresses a fundamental concern every person with diabetes has: What happens if I experience a hypoglycemic episode so low that conventional treatments like glucose tabs aren’t enough to save me? There is now a new answer: GVOKE, a new form of glucagon that is radically different than traditional glucagon kits. GVOKE is a liquid glucagon that is premixed, pre-filled and premeasured. That means no reconstitution in the moment of an emergency. And, it’s room-temperature stable for 24 months. GVOKE COMES IN TWO FORMS:

• GVOKE PFS (pre-filled syringe), available now, for people who want the certainty of seeing the glucagon go in the body and pushing it in with their thumb.
• GVOKE HypoPen (single-use auto-injector), available starting in July 2020, for people who want the certainty of an injection, but don’t want to see the needle.

GVOKE is not recommended for people who have weak adrenal glands or have glucagonoma or insulinoma. BAQSIMI NASAL GLUCAGON

The other glucagon breakthrough is BAQSIMI, a nasal powder produced by Eli Lilly. It is delivered through the nose but with no need to inhale. When it comes into contact with nasal membranes, BAQSIMI is absorbed instantly into the bloodstream. BAQSIMI is not recommended for people who experience weak adrenal glands or have glucagonoma or insulinoma. Diabetes patients have witnessed many technological leaps forward through the years—blood glucose monitors, long-lasting insulin; insulin pumps offering the person with diabetes more flexibility and the ability to be discreet.

Another advantage of BAQSIMI is it can be taken if a user has nasal congestion or cold. Both forms of glucagon offer the first truly novel approaches in years to glucagon delivery. Check with your local pharmacist about their availability and a more detailed discussion of how to use them.