

For your safety and the safety of others, sharps should only be placed in a Safe Sharps container.

**DO NOT** put sharps in plastic bottles or jugs.

**DO NOT** put sharps in garbage or recycling bags.

**DO NOT** flush sharps down the toilet.

**DO NOT** try to remove, bend or recap needles used by another person.

**DO NOT** put anything but sharps in the sharps containers.

*Note: The Safe Sharps program does not include used sharps from medical, dental or veterinary clinics, home care professionals or farms. To properly dispose of these types of sharps, please contact the respective professional association.*

*Sharps generated by intravenous drug users 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 or Toll-free: (877) 904-4555

**Sharp Advice Needle Exchange (S.A.N.E.)**

(902) 539-5556

The Safe Sharps Bring-Back Program is administered by The Pharmacy Association of Nova Scotia and funded by Nova Scotia pharmacies, sharps manufacturers and distributors.



# Safe SHARPS

## BRING-BACK PROGRAM

For the safe disposal of  
needles  
syringes  
lancets  
auto injectors  
infusion sets

For more information, please contact the RRFB at 1-877-313-RRFB(7732) or your local pharmacy.



## What are sharps?

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

 **Needles** - Hollow needles used to inject drugs (medication) under the skin

 **Syringes** - Devices used to inject medication into or withdraw fluid from the body

 **Lancets/Fingerstick Devices** - Instruments with a short, two edged blade used to obtain drops of blood for testing. Lancets are commonly used in the management of diabetes

 **Auto Injectors (including epinephrine and insulin pens)** - Syringes pre-filled with fluid medication designed to be self-injected into the body

 **Infusion Sets** - Tubing systems with a needle used to deliver drugs to the body

 **Connection Needles/Sets** - Needles that connect to a tube used to transfer fluids in and out of the body. This is usually used for patients on home haemodialysis.

Sharps containing medications may be disposed of in the sharps containers. There are no exclusions for medication type.

## Please dispose of your sharps safely. Here's how:

**1** Pick up a free Safe Sharps container at your community pharmacy.



For Chronic Use



For Short Term Use

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



**3** When the container is full, return the sealed container to your community pharmacy.

Used sharps must be handled properly. **Do not** put used sharps in plastic bottles or jugs for disposal. Also, **do not** place sharps in recycling or garbage bags because they can seriously harm people who are handling these bags. Needlestick injuries from used sharps may cause infections or diseases. If you are stuck, seek immediate medical attention.