

# Disposal Tips for Home Health Care Wastes

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**Home Health Care Wastes**  
Primarily consist of used  
"sharps"

**Examples: Needles, syringes,  
lancets, soiled bandages,  
disposable sheets, and medical  
gloves.**

**Recommended Treatment:** Prior to disposal,  
disinfect your sharps with a solution of 1  
teaspoon of bleach in 1/2 gallon of water.



You can help prevent injury, illness, and pollution by following the simple steps when disposing of these wastes in your household trash.

1. Place all sharps in a puncture-resistant, hard plastic, or metal container. Example: An empty detergent bottle with screw-on lid, or an empty coffee can.

2. Close the container with its original lid, and secure it with heavy duty tape.

3. Place the tightly sealed container in a paper bag, and discard it with your household trash.

4. Place non-sharp home health care wastes in a doubled, securely fastened, opaque plastic trash bag before putting them in your garbage can with other wastes.

**DO NOT PLACE HOME HEALTH CARE  
WASTES WITH YOUR RECYCLEABLES!**

# Other Disposal Options

1. Ask your doctor if he or she will accept your properly "containerized" sharps for safe disposal.
2. Contact your local hospital to see if it will accept sharps that have been properly secured in a container.
3. Check with your pharmacy. Some sell specially designed containers for use by homeowners in securing health care wastes for disposal in household trash.

