

<b>MANUAL TITLE:</b>	MAC Rx Pharmacy Policies and Procedures Manual
<b>POLICY #/TITLE</b>	<b>IE6</b> Syringe and Needle Disposal
<b>REVISION DATE:</b>	
<b>PAGES:</b>	1 of 1

## **IE6: SYRINGE AND NEEDLE DISPOSAL**

### **Policy**

---

Used syringes and needles are disposed of safely and in accordance with applicable laws and safety regulations.

### **Procedure**

---

- A. To avoid risk of needle-sticks, needles are not recapped after use. For needles containing a safety guard device, the device should be engaged immediately upon use.
- B. Immediately after use, syringes and needles are placed into puncture resistant, one-way containers (sharps) specifically designed for that purpose. Syringes and needles are never deliberately bent or broken.
- C. Whether kept in the medication room or affixed to the medication cart, the disposal containers are fitted with a lid that prohibits reaching into the container. While awaiting disposal, full containers of discarded needles are kept where residents and unauthorized staff do not have access (such as in a locked medication room).
- D. When containers are two-thirds full, they are sealed and disposed of in the same manner as other infectious waste.
- E. Facility staff should not dispose of medications, such as fentanyl patches, in sharps containers.