

Safe disposal of needles, syringes, and lancets

You can help protect yourself and others from accidental needle sticks by safely disposing of needles, syringes, and lancets. Here are a few tips:

- Always handle needles, syringes, lancets and other sharp, bloody objects with care. Never recap, bend, or break a needle.
- Never reuse needles or syringes.
- Dispose of needles, syringes, and lancets in an approved sharps container or thick plastic container, such as an empty laundry detergent bottle. Never throw a used needle, syringe, or lancet into your household trash.
- You may buy an approved sharps container at any Kaiser Permanente pharmacy for less than \$5. The cost of the container includes the disposal fee at the lab.

Disposal Options

To dispose of an approved sharps container:

- When your sharps container is $\frac{3}{4}$ full (to the fill line shown on the side of your container) lock the top securely in place.
- Take your sharps container to the lab at any Kaiser Permanente medical office during regular laboratory hours. Call Customer Service toll-free 1-888-901-4636 or visit our website at www.kp.org/wa for laboratory hours.

For other options available in your area contact:

- The local Solid Waste Utility or the County Health Department.
- The statewide hotline for disposal information specific to each county in the state of Washington. Call between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday: 1-800- RECYCLE.
- The Stericycle Sharps Mailback Disposal Service: Sells sharps containers of various sizes that can be mailed back for disposal. Call toll-free 1-866-783-7422 or visit www.stericycle.com for more information.