

June 26, 2026



126 East Lincoln Avenue
P.O. Box 2000
Rahway, NJ 07065

merck.com

California Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery
(CalRecycle)
801 K Street, MS 19-01
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 322-4027
PharmaSharps@calrecycle.ca.gov

RE: 2026 Sharps Management Plan for Merck & Co., Inc.

To Whom It May Concern:

Under California and Minnesota law, pharmaceutical manufacturers are required to make available a plan describing the actions, if any, that they have taken to support the safe collection and proper disposal of home generated sharps. Merck & Co., Inc., (hereinafter "Merck") provides this Sharps Management Plan in response to these requirements.

In California, Public Resources Code §47115–47116 requires a pharmaceutical manufacturer that sells or distributes in California medication that is usually intended to be self-injected at home through the use of hypodermic needles, pen needles, intravenous needles, or other similar devices to submit a plan to CalRecycle describing how the manufacturer supports the safe collection and proper disposal of those waste devices, and to post and maintain that plan on the manufacturer's website.

In Minnesota, Minn. Stat. §116.835 requires pharmaceutical manufacturers that sell or distribute medication in Minnesota that is usually intended to be self-injected at home resulting in the generation of sharps, to post on it's website a plan describing how the manufacturer supports the safe collection and proper disposal of the sharps.

At Merck, our fundamental responsibility is discovering, developing and delivering innovative medicines and vaccines that can make a difference in people's lives and create a healthier future. We believe that fulfilling this responsibility in a sustainable manner demands high ethical standards and a culture that values honesty, integrity and transparency in all that we do.

Merck supports safe home-generated sharps management through patient and healthcare provider education and product specific instructions where applicable.

Animal therapies that utilize injectable delivery systems are prescribed by veterinarians. The customer, while administering the medication at home, is advised to follow instructions regarding sharps management.

In addition to product-provided information, it is advised to follow applicable state and local regulations and utilize educational resources provided by healthcare providers, veterinarians, manufacturers, and public health agencies to ensure safe, compliant sharps disposal practices.

When applicable to our products, Merck participates in the Pharmaceutical Product Stewardship Work Group (PPSWG) sharps collection programs to comply with promulgated sharps collection legislation.

The “2026 Sharps Management Plan” is posted on Merck’s website.

Additional Resources for Home-Injected Sharps Disposal

Doctors, nurse trainers, call center staff, and patients have access to <https://safeneedledisposal.org/>. This website provides a summary of state requirements for disposal of home-generated sharps, with links to state programs.

Patients in California may visit [CalRecycle’s Household Sharps Waste Disposal](#) website for information and guidance pertaining to the safe disposal of sharps waste.

Patients in Minnesota may also visit the [Minnesota Pollution Control Agency](#) website for information and guidance pertaining to safe disposal of sharps waste.

The [FDA](#) has provided guidance on how to dispose of sharps.