

Merck & Co., Inc.  
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California Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)  
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RE: 2023 Sharps Management Plan for Merck & Co., Inc.

To Whom It May Concern:

Merck & Co., Inc., (hereinafter "Merck" or "the Company") provides this letter in response to the requirements of California Article 3.3 of Chapter 1, Part 7 of the Public Resources Code (2009) (contained in Senate Bill 486). 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.

The Merck Animal Health division manufactures an injectable veterinary insulin to treat dog and cat diabetes. It is an important part of such therapeutic regimens for the patient to understand the appropriate methods by which to dispose of the resulting home generated sharps waste. Therefore, Merck supports the safe management of used sharps for its injectable medicines as described below.

Merck uses product enhancement programs to educate the healthcare provider, as well as the patient, on the methods for used sharps management. New patients are provided information on proper disposal and, where products utilize the safe sharps technology, detailed instructions on the use of these technologies for specific drug delivery injection devices. This information is provided to the patient by the healthcare provider at the beginning of the therapy cycle. As part of the therapy support, the healthcare provider discusses the FDA approved administration of the Merck treatment, which includes discussion of the proper management of used sharps.

Animal therapies that utilize injectable delivery systems are strictly managed by veterinarians. The customer, while administering the medication at home, follows a specified treatment regimen including sharps management and follow-up visits. These visits allow the veterinarian to collect used sharps, examine the patient and review the delivery system requirements for the next round of treatment.

Merck provides support to our healthcare partners for the medicines we manufacture and distribute. Our relationship with our customers is of the utmost importance to the Company and we look forward to future efforts to assist them.

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.