

Manitoba Medications Return Program

FAQs and Operational Tips

Who provides this service to the Province of Manitoba?

The **Health Products Stewardship Association (HPSA)** oversees the Manitoba Medications Return Program which is provided at no charge to participating pharmacies. Stericycle has been contracted and will collect and dispose of the product. All pharmacy staff members should be aware of the program and are encouraged to promote it to the public. This program is intended solely for public returns. Any waste collected from institutional facilities (e.g. long term care, group homes), doctor’s offices, clinics, or pharmacy waste will have to be disposed of through a commercial waste account.

What is the cost of the program?

There is no cost to the participating pharmacy or to the public. HPSA is a not for profit association and is funded and governed by the pharmaceutical and consumer health products industries.

How do I enroll?

Enrolment is quick and easy. Fill out the form located at: <http://www.healthsteward.ca/collection/manitoba>. Fax or email the completed form to HPSA (1-855-228-2099) and you will be notified of enrollment within a few weeks.

How do I order a container or arrange pick up?

Telephone: 204-697-4463 or 1-866-693-3330 **Fax:** 1-204-694-3158 **E-mail:** customercaremb@stericycle.com
Please note that there is a minimum of two containers per pick up.

What can I put into the med return pail?

All prescription drugs and oral dosage form nonprescription drugs and natural health products returned by the public are acceptable. Dry contents should be emptied directly into the pail. Blister packs and wet product such as creams and liquids should be left in the original container and placed in the pail. Do not pour any liquid into the pail.

What is ACCEPTED for disposal?	What is NOT ACCEPTED?
Prescription Medications	Sharps, syringes or needles
OTC/NHP products in oral dosage form	Anatomical or Biomedical waste
Antifungal or antibacterial creams	Antiperspirants
Patches	Antiseptics
Inhalers (maximum of 10 full canisters per container)	Expired samples
All Rx drugs including patches and creams	Hazardous material
Throat lozenges	Mouthwashes
Vitamin and mineral supplements	Pharmaceuticals from farms, hospitals, doctors, dentists and institutions
OTC medications and NHP’s including pills and liquids	Pharmacy waste

What about cytotoxic waste?

Place any cytotoxic waste returned by the public into the pharm-pail; it does not need to be separated.

Do I need to worry about confidentiality?

Yes. Encourage your patients to take responsibility to safeguard their personal health information by either blacking out their name or removing the label from the vial or product dispensed. **You must do this if the patient has not.**

Who do I contact if I have more questions?

Contact the Health Products Stewardship Association by e-mail: info@healthsteward.ca or by phone at 1 (613) 723-7282.



HEALTH PRODUCTS
STEWARDSHIP
ASSOCIATION



COLLEGE OF
PHARMACISTS
OF MANITOBA

Courtesy of your Pharmacists Manitoba Professional Relations
Committee, Health Products Stewardship Association and the
College of Pharmacists of Manitoba