

Controlled Substance Disposal

Issue:

The storage of controlled substances awaiting destruction can create vulnerability within the controlled substance life cycle.

Background:

- New technology has made the necessity for waiting to destroy controlled substances obsolete, allowing for real-time destruction that meets both chain-of-custody and environmental standards.
- When medications needing to be destroyed are not stockpiled, it improves security and decreases opportunity for diversion.

Recommendations:

1. If the facility destroys multiple doses of controlled substances at one time, it does so in a way that two individuals in a facility are not the only people involved in CS destruction over time. Including additional individuals removes opportunity for diversion/collusion.
2. The facility invests in a medication disposal system that meets DEA, EPA, and Pollution Control Agency requirements (Such as MedSafe or Cactus Sinks).

Links that may be helpful:

Regulations

Minnesota Statutes, Section 152.105

<https://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/pubs/opioidreg.pdf>

DEA Part 1317

<https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/21/part-1317/subpart-C>

Pollution Control Agency

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/7045/>

Products/Services*

https://sfenvironment.org/sites/default/files/fliers/files/overviewmedicinedisposalproducts_21april2017.pdf

<https://www.sharpsinc.com/medsafe/>

[https://www.stericycle.com/services/waste-services/pharmaceutical-waste?](https://www.stericycle.com/services/waste-services/pharmaceutical-waste?keyword=medication%20waste%20disposal&gclid=EAlaIQobChMljlCsxs6j4wIVT77ACh2RagCFEAYASABEgLEa_D_BwE)

[keyword=medication%20waste%20disposal&gclid=EAlaIQobChMljlCsxs6j4wIVT77ACh2RagCFEAYASABEgLEa_D_BwE](https://www.stericycle.com/services/waste-services/pharmaceutical-waste?keyword=medication%20waste%20disposal&gclid=EAlaIQobChMljlCsxs6j4wIVT77ACh2RagCFEAYASABEgLEa_D_BwE)

<https://www.stryker.com/us/en/surgical/products/cactus-controlled-substance-waste-management-system/cactus/products.html>

*The Advisory Group has not specified a brand preference for controlled substance destruction solutions and acknowledges that this market is changing rapidly. Each facility implementing this recommendation should ensure they understand standards for compliant destruction of medication, assess facility need, and cross-reference that with their available financial resources and the products currently available to choose the right solution for their clinicians and residents.