



Disposal Tips for Home Health Care

You can help prevent injury, illness, and pollution by following some simple steps when you dispose of the sharp objects and contaminated materials you use in administering health care in your home.

You should place:

- Needles
- Syringes
- Lancets
- Other sharp objects

in a hard-plastic or metal container with a screw-on or tightly secured lid.



Many containers found in the household will do, or you may purchase containers specifically designed for the disposal of medical waste sharps. Before discarding a container, be sure to reinforce the lid with heavy-duty tape. **Do not put sharp objects in any container you plan to recycle or return to a store, and do not use glass or clear plastic containers** (see additional information below). Finally, make sure that you keep all containers with sharp objects out of the reach of children and pets.

We also recommend that:

- Soiled bandages
- Disposable sheets
- Medical gloves

be placed in securely fastened plastic bags before you put them in the garbage can with your other trash.

