



**Administrative
Policies and Procedures**

Originating Venue: Infection Control
Title: Expired Medication Disposal Policy and Procedure
Date Issued: 8/2014
Date Reviewed: 8/2014
Date Revised: 08/2014
Attachment: N/A

Policy No.: IC 2312
Cross Reference:

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Purpose:

To safely dispose of all expired drug medications in a manner that is in keeping with environmental protection and the safety of any person who might potentially come into contact with disposed medications.

Policy:

Premier Medical Group monitors expiration dates and disposes of expired medications according to U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommendations for disposal. Medications which have expired will have the packaging opened and the product will be rendered unusable if possible. The item is then placed in the Biohazard waste as appropriate for the product.

Procedure:

1. Injectable medications which have reached their expiration date will be disposed of in a Sharps container after removal of packaging
2. Vaccines which have reached their expiration date will be removed from stock and given to the site nursing supervisor. This person will contact the vaccine manufacturer for possible reimbursement. If the item is reimbursable, the product will be returned to the manufacturer. If the item is not reimbursable, the item is disposed of in a Sharps container.
3. Non-narcotic medications in tablet or capsule formulation may be placed in biohazard waste for disposal by the biohazard disposal service. Medication should be removed from the packaging to decrease the volume of waste.
4. Liquid medications, creams and ointments may be placed in the biohazard waste bin in their original containers, for disposal by the biohazard disposal service.
5. Premier Medical Group follows FDA recommendations for disposal of certain drugs including high potency opioids and other selected controlled substances. The FDA recommends that these medicines be disposed of by flushing down the sink or toilet. This will be done according to standard narcotic disposal policy with a 2 person witnessed waste by 2 licensed health care personnel, and documented on the appropriate narcotic count sheet.
6. Medications will not be accepted from patients or other outside sources for disposal.

Date Policy to be reviewed: 08/15