

# Sharp container return and exchange requirements

Medical sharps, such as needles, syringes and lancets, pose an injury risk for anyone who comes in contact with these items. If sharps are put in the trash or recycling or flushed down the toilet, they can injure sanitation workers or cause equipment problems.



We thank you  
for your help  
in keeping this  
process safe.

## It's important to properly package and dispose of all sharps:

- Place all used medical sharps (needles, lancets, and syringes) in the provided medical sharps container immediately after use to minimize injury to others.
- Fill to designated 'full' line listed on the front of the sharps container.
- **Do not fill sharps containers** over the 'full' line.

## Before returning the sharps container:

- Make sure all used sharps are completely inside the enclosed sharps container.
- Make sure the container cover is secured and fully closed.

## Used sharps will not be accepted in unapproved containers such as:

- Plastic milk containers
- In paper or plastic bags
- Plastic detergent containers
- Soda bottles or cans
- Cardboard boxes

*Health System pharmacy staff are not allowed to accept or handle **any** sharps not appropriately disposed of in an approved sharps container. This places them at risk of injury and exposure to potential infectious disease.*



Marshfield Clinic  
Health System