You Can Now Buy Syringes at Pharmacies in New Jersey Without a Prescription

In New Jersey, a new law allows people over 18 years old to purchase up to ten syringes at pharmacies without a prescription.

You must present a valid photo ID or otherwise satisfy the pharmacist that you are over 18.

Keep your receipt. It is proof of legal purchase.

This is a voluntary program. Not all pharmacies sell syringes without a prescription. We need your help to understand how the law is working. If you go to a pharmacy to buy syringes, let us know about your experience. Talk to a staff member or call the Hyacinth AIDS Foundation hotline at 1.800.433.0254.

How Can You Safely Dispose of Used Syringes?

You can legally and safely dispose of syringes in the trash by following the steps below:

1. **Rigid Container** Place used syringes in an FDA-approved sharps container or in a heavy-duty plastic container, such as a laundry detergent or bleach bottle. The bottle should be sturdy, puncture-resistant and should not leak.

2. **Label/Warning** Place a label with a warning on the container. Example: SYRINGES - DO NOT RECYCLE

3. **Disposal** You may now dispose of the tightly sealed container of syringes in your household garbage – NOT in your recycling bin. Remember, although you may feel healthy, your used syringes can transmit germs. In addition, loose syringes thrown in your trash can seriously hurt people.

You can also bring syringes to any of New Jersey’s Syringe Access Programs.

Don’t Share or Reuse Needles or Syringes

Sharing syringes and other injection equipment can spread HIV, hepatitis C, and other serious illnesses. Reusing syringes can cause abscesses, infections and damaged veins.

Additional Resources

**New Jersey Safe Syringe Disposal Guide**
http://www.state.nj.us/health/ceohs/documents/safe_syringe_disposal.pdf

**New Jersey Syringe Access Programs**
http://www.drugpolicy.org/njsyringeprograms

**Addiction Hotline of New Jersey**
1.800.238.2333 or dial 211

**New Jersey HIV/AIDS Hotline**
1.800.624.2377

Thank you for helping us keep New Jersey’s communities safe and healthy!