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**Owner:** Linda Ator: RN/DON CAH  
**Policy Area:** Pharmacy - Procedures  
**References:**

## Disposal of Wasted and Expired Medications

### PURPOSE:

- To establish a process for disposal of partial and used doses of medication

### RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Pharmacist in Charge (PIC)
- Nursing Staff

### PROCEDURE:

1. Wasted and used medications will be placed in a container labeled "WASTE" in the medication room.
  - a. Tablet and liquid medications will be:
    - i. Electronically recorded in the automated dispensing cabinet (see procedure for Wasting and Returning Medications).
    - ii. Physically disposed of in the "WASTE" container.
  - b. Transdermal patches will be:
    - i. Removed from the patient wearing a disposable glove.
    - ii. Wrap the medication into the disposable glove as the glove is removed.
    - iii. Physically dispose of the glove and medication in the "WASTE" container.
2. Sterilization Services will manage the "WASTE" container.
  - a. A small red sharps container will be labeled with "WASTE" and the month and year "--/--."
  - b. Approximately one (1) inch of kitty litter will be placed in the bottom of the container.
  - c. The container will be placed in the medication room of the nurse's station.
  - d. The container will be removed and replaced the beginning of each month; or, sooner as needed.
  - e. After removal, the container will be autoclaved as trash and disposed.

All revision dates:

7/5/2016

### Attachments:

No Attachments

## Approval Signatures

Approver	Date
Marv Eberling: Pharmacist In Charge	7/5/2016
Kathy Tangedal: RN/Director of Quality	6/29/2016
Kathy Tangedal: RN/Director of Quality	6/29/2016
Linda Ator: RN/DON CAH	6/15/2016