

M (cont.)

Waste and Hazardous Materials Division
Medical Waste Regulatory Program
P: (517) 241-1320

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
P: (651) 296-6300

Mississippi Department of Health
P: (866) 458-4948

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Division of Environmental Quality
P: (800) 361-4827

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New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
Waste Management Division
P: (603) 271-3503

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste
P: (609) 633-1418

New York Department of Health
Bureau of Hospital and Primary Care Services
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New Mexico Environment Department
Environmental Protection Division
P: (505) 827-2109

Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of Environmental Protection
P: (775) 687-4670

North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Division of Waste Management
P: (919) 508-8400

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Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management
P: (614) 644-2621

Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality
Land Protection Division
P: (405) 702-5100

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Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Municipal and Residual Waste Division
P: (717) 787-2814

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Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Office of Waste Management
P: (401) 222-2797

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South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
Bureau of Land and Waste Management
P: (803) 896-4000

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Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste Management
P: (615) 532-0780

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P: (512) 239-1000

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Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Waste Division
P: (804) 698-4000

W

Washington Department of Health
P: (360) 236-4501

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources
Public Health Sanitation Division
P: (304) 558-6783

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Bureau of Waste and Materials Management
P: (608) 266-2111

Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality
P: (307) 777-7937



Fresenius Medical Care

Peritoneal Dialysis: Guidelines for Disposal of Peritoneal Waste

Corporate Health, Safety,
Environmental Affairs, Engineering,
Security and Risk Management
Department



Fresenius Medical Care

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PERITONEAL DIALYSIS: GUIDELINES FOR DISPOSAL OF PERITONEAL WASTE

Home Waste Disposal and You

Proper waste disposal is a serious problem. Improperly disposed waste can harm your trash collector, your neighborhood children, and your environment. As a peritoneal patient, you have an important role to play in safeguarding your neighborhood by making certain your waste is safely disposed.

The regulations guiding what waste is allowed to go where can be complex. This brochure contains general guidelines on proper disposal of your peritoneal waste.

But First Some Good News

Both your state regulatory body and your local municipal government control where medical waste is allowed to go. But home generated waste is exempt from the difficult regulations such as storage, tracking and treatment requirements. All you are required to do is take a few simple precautions towards protecting your neighborhood trash haulers.

Part 1: Fluid

Your first waste to dispose of will be your drained dialysis solution. We recommend flushing it down the toilet.

Drain the effluent from your discarded CAPD system or from your cyclor drain bags following the policy set forth by your clinic. It may be easier for you to do this if you place a small hook or clip on the wall near the toilet, so that the hook/clip can hold the draining bag instead of you.

Part 2: All That Plastic

Between the tubing and the solution bags, peritoneal dialysis can generate a lot of plastic. Fortunately, all you need to do with it is place it in a heavy opaque plastic garbage bag, tightly knot the top of it, and dump it into your trash can. That's it! Disposed.

In these environmentally conscious days, it may seem like the earth friendly thing to do would be to recycle the plastic. Absolutely not! Never place your peritoneal dialysis waste in a recycling container or any container other than your own. Always dispose of it with your regular household trash.

Part 3: Masks, Dressing, and Gloves

This part is really easy! Your face masks, dressing and your helper's gloves are not medical waste. They can be thought of as household trash.

Part 4: Sharp Stuff

Needles and syringes are extra-special wastes. Some states do regulate home-generated sharps. Because they can puncture the skin, they pose a much larger threat than do your plastic tubing or bags. Your peritoneal dialysis facility may give you a sharps container or may recommend some other sturdy container for used needles and syringes. Place all used needles and syringes in this container. When the container is full, follow your facility's instructions to either return it to the facility or for proper disposal in the trash.

Part 5: Medical Vials

Just like your masks, dressings and gloves, medical vials are non-regulated. Your medical vials should also be thought of as part of your regular household trash, no different from an empty container of aspirin.

Caveats and Warnings

Unfortunately, people have a lot of misconception about medical waste. Your trash hauler may refuse to take your PD waste because it looks "medical" and "must be dangerous." If this happens, please contact your peritoneal dialysis home training nurse. Trash haulers do have final authority, but education should cure the misunderstanding.

All Done

Absolutely, that's all there is to it. If you have any more questions, please feel free to contact your peritoneal dialysis home training nurse.

A

Alabama Department of Environmental Management
Land Division
P: (334) 271-7700

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Solid Waste Management
P: (602) 771-2300

Arkansas Department of Health
P: (501) 661-2000

C

California Department of Public Health
Medical Waste Management Program
P: (916) 449-5671

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division
P: (303) 692-3320

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
P: (860) 424-3000

D

Delaware Department of Natural Resources and
Environmental Control
Division of Air and Waste Management
P: (302) 739-9403

District of Columbia Department of the Environment
P: (202) 535-2600

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Florida Department of Health
Division of Environmental Health
Bureau of Community Environmental Health
P: (850) 245-4277

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Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Environmental Protection Division
Land Protection Branch
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Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Land
P: (309) 693-5462

Indiana Department of Health
P: (317) 233-1325

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
P: (515) 281-5918

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Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Bureau of Waste Management
P: (785) 296-1600

Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet
Division of Waste Management
P: (502) 564-6716

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Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
P: (225) 342-8093

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Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management
P: (207) 287-2651

Maryland Department of the Environment
P: (800) 633-6101

Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Community Sanitation Program
P: (617) 624-5757

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality