

# **Los Angeles County Ordinance Supporter Recommendations**

## **Key Elements of a Properly Constructed Ordinance**

- 1. Include all prescribed drugs, over the counter (OTC) drugs, all needles, and the elements attached to the needles (sharps).**
- 2. Producers of medicines and sharps should have the primary responsibility for the disposal of their products as a cost of doing business as they make the design and marketing decisions that lead to end-of-life costs and they profit from the product.**
- 3. Ensure that it is a cost of doing business to manage medicines and needles at end-of-life. All other county EPR ordinances -- Alameda, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin in California and King County Washington -- do not allow a visible fee on medicines or sharps. A visible fee adds complexity and administrative costs to the program and the cost is then not an internalized cost of doing business.**
- 4. All end-of-life options are at no cost to the consumer at point of disposal.**
- 5. Any existing county funded collection locations, such as at law enforcement stations, should be fully compensated for the bins, disposal, and labor costs at the time the ordinance takes effect until the producer-run program is completely rolled out and meeting convenience standards.**
- 6. Any pharmacy or location that notifies the producers they want to host a bin and can do so under state and federal law, must be provided a bin within 90 days.**
- 7. Public education about the stewardship programs must be effective at achieving some metric predetermined by the county for awareness and usage of the program after a scheduled date, as determined by a statistically valid public survey.**
- 8. Hospitals with pharmacies are strongly encouraged to be collection locations for pharmaceuticals and sharps. Based on the experience of Bay Area Counties, hospital disposal sites collect more than local pharmacies and law enforcement agencies.**
- 9. Producers are prohibited from promoting methods of disposal outside those of the stewardship plan, such as throwing medications and sharps in the trash or flushing them.**
- 10. The County will set performance metrics based on equitable accessibility by all county consumers to disposal options in order to make the program as convenient to properly dispose of medications and sharps as it was to buy them.**
- 11. Sharps containers are available without extra charge or fee on the product (internalized costs of the product are fine) to all who use sharps at the point of sale. Consumers should not leave stores without an FDA approved safe return container.**
- 12. The County will set performance metrics for the public education campaign to ensure consumers know how to use the program.**
- 13. All retailers and distributors of medicines and sharps must promote the producer supported collection program, whether they are a drop-off location or not.**