

## California Fact Sheet



### Pharmaceutical and Sharps EPR: Santa Clara County

Rev. 8/2/18

Santa Clara County started its drug take back program in 2006, but with Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA) as the primary take-back sites. A new ordinance was developed to increase convenience and alleviate cost for LEAs.<sup>1</sup> [Ordinance No. 04736](#) went into effect May 28, 2015 and puts all cost responsibilities on the producer.<sup>1</sup> The Stewardship Plan required in the Ordinance was approved in 2016 to be MED-Project.<sup>1</sup> In March 2018, County Supervisors passed [Ordinance No., NS-517.92](#), requiring sharps manufacturers to submit and implement a plan for safe disposal of consumer-generated sharps waste.

**Organizing Body:** MED-Project is the Stewardship Plan producers chose to implement in compliance with [Ordinance No. 04736](#). The County approved this plan on August 28, 2016 and it has been revised and updated as of January 2018.<sup>2</sup>



**Costs & Funding:** [Ordinances No. 04736](#) and No. 517.92 require **ALL producers** of pharmaceuticals and sharps to participate in a Stewardship Organization that funds and manages **ALL costs and fees** associated with disposal.<sup>3</sup>

A full list of program participations as of June 8, 2018 can be found on page 12 of "[2017 San Mateo County MED-Project Annual Report](#)"<sup>4</sup>

The **total cost of the program** for the reporting period of the [2017 Annual Report](#) was **\$1,265,795**.<sup>4</sup>

**Program Facts:** A total of **24,660 pounds of unwanted or expired medications** have been collected through MED-Project's Stewardship Plan.<sup>5</sup>

#### Summary of Collection Weights by Source as of 2017<sup>5</sup>

Type of Pharmaceutical Collection	Weight (lbs.)
Kiosk	23,450
Take Back	1,099
Mail Back	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,660</b>

**Collection Locations & Accessibility:**

Through various type of outreach, as of 2017, MED-Project has achieved a **Combined Target Reach Percentage of 97%.**<sup>5</sup> The specific outreach approach can be found in the [Annual Report](#).

All five districts in the County have met the convenience standard of **five kiosks per district.**<sup>5</sup>

**Summary of Convenience Standard Results per District<sup>5</sup>**

District	No. Kiosks	No. of Mail Back Package Locations	No. of Take Back Events
1	11	2	2
2	5	6 (5 active)	4
3	6	7 (3 active)	3
4	9	3	2
5	6	4 (2 active)	4

**Timeline:**

**May 28, 2015:** [Ordinance No. 04736](#) goes into effect with the purpose of increased convenience.<sup>2</sup>

**May 27, 2016:** Med-Project Stewardship Plan is submitted by the Producers.<sup>1</sup>

**September 13, 2016:** Stewardship Plan is approved.<sup>2</sup>

**November 28, 2016:** Stewardship Plan goes into effect.<sup>2</sup>

**March 6, 2018:** The County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors passed [Ordinance No., NS-517.92](#) requiring sharps manufacturers to submit and implement a comprehensive plan for safe disposal of consumer-generated sharps waste.

**June 12, 2018:** 2017 Annual Report published outlining the success of the program thus far.<sup>1</sup>

**References:**

1. "Safe Medicine Disposal Ordinance" *smchealth* accessed July 2018 [Web](#).
2. "Ordinance No., NS-517.92"
3. "San Mateo County Safe Drug Ordinance Timeline" *smchealth* accessed July 2018 [Web](#).
4. "Ordinance No. 04736" *smchealth* accessed July 2018 [Web](#).
5. "A Product Stewardship Plan" accessed July 2018 [Web](#).
6. "2017 County of San Mateo MED-Project Annual Report" accessed July 2018 [Web](#).