























- Largest change in the proposed management of hazardous waste pharmaceuticals since RCRA regulations were finalized in 1980
- Applicable in federally managed states August 21, 2019 (Iowa, Alaska, Puerto Rico, Indian Country, territories except Guam)
- Sewer prohibition of hazardous waste pharmaceuticals nation-wide August 21, 2019 (TODAY!)
- All other states must adopt stricter aspects; may choose not to adopt less strict aspects

























#4: When Does the Rest of the Rule Apply?

- Federally August 21, 2019: Iowa, Alaska, Puerto Rico, and all territories except Guam. All other states must adopt the rule which can take 1 to 2 years.
- New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Kentucky have declared they will adopt the new regulations in their entirety on or about August 21, 2019.
- North Carolina will adopt the nicotine exemption immediately.
- Check with your state for an update on their adoption schedule.
- Monitor for adoption of the less stringent aspects of the rule.





- HWPs will not be included in determining generator status, therefore there is no SQG or LQG status for HWPs
- ▶ All HWPs are managed the same
 - No tracking of monthly generated amounts for HWPs
 - No separation of P-listed HWPs
 - Decreases episodic generation
 - No longer a disincentive to manage all pharmaceutical waste as hazardous waste pharmaceuticals
 - Total accumulation time 1 year











Quick Check

Which of the following are accurate descriptions of the impact of the new regulations that impact hazardous pharmaceutical waste management? T or F?

A. It is very common for EPA to carve out a specific industry for regulation.

FALSE: Only the second time in history.

B. No hazardous waste pharmaceuticals can be drained disposed after today, August 21, 2019, anywhere in the U.S.

TRUE: This regulation is promulgated under the HWSA regulations and applies immediately in all states.













#8: What About Hazardous Waste Controlled Substances?

- Controlled substances that are also a hazardous waste will be exempted from the RCRA hazardous waste regulations under subpart P, assuming all DEA requirements for disposal are met.
- Neither inventory nor "wastage" of DEA controlled substances that are hazardous wastes can be sewered
- Destroyed by a method DEA has publicly deemed in writing to meet non-retrievable standard, OR...
- Must be incinerated by 1 of 5 types of permitted combustors









- Disposal of controlled substance "wastage" in the nursing units should include sequestration into a device that renders the drugs "non-divertable"
 - Examples:
 - Cactus Smart Sink® (denaturation)
 - ▶ Rx Destroyer[™] (activated carbon)
 - ► CsRx[™] (activated carbon)
- Devices will no longer need to be disposed into a hazardous pharmaceutical waste container, but can be disposed as nonhazardous pharmaceutical waste by incineration
 - Cannot be disposed in the trash





Quick Check (continued)

C. Controlled substances remaining after dispensing to the patient are considered "wastage" by DEA and out of the DEA closed loop, but must be managed in compliance with all applicable environmental rules.

True: DEA does include documentation requirements but leaves disposal up to the registrant. EPA is more prescriptive for hazardous waste controlled substances, requiring incineration at this time.

D. If any hazardous waste controlled substances are administered in the nursing unit, it will be very difficult to continue drain-disposing non-hazardous controlled substances and remain in compliance with the sewer ban of HWPs.

True: it will be difficult for nurses to distinguish between HWP and non-HWP controlled substances.



#10: What About Outdated Rx Drugs Sent to a Reverse Distributor?

- An Rx drug will be considered a waste when it outdates at the pharmacy.
- If it is potentially creditable, as defined in the regulation, it can be sent to a reverse distributor for evaluation, following certain additional requirements.
- Under the current rule, outdated OTC hazardous waste pharmaceuticals CANNOT be sent to a reverse distributor but remain a product if potentially reusable/recyclable etc. and must be sent to a reverse logistics center.
- Stay tuned for possible change in the future regarding outdated HWP OTCs.









- May be from a healthcare facility to a reverse distributor or from a reverse distributor to another reverse distributor via common carrier
- Must comply with DOT shipping descriptions for hazardous materials (usually ORM-D: Other Regulated Material - Class D or Limited Quantity Label)
- Receiving reverse distributor must provide confirmation of receipt, custody and control (paper or electronic) to the shipper
- If confirmation not received within 35 days of shipping date, shipper must contact carrier and RD to report and determine status of shipment
 - KNOW HOW TO ACCESS YOU RD RECORDS!













- Household waste pharmaceuticals collected in a takeback event or program or DEA-approved kiosk
- Cannot be sewered
- Must be in compliance with DEA regulations
- Must be destroyed in a manner DEA has publicly deemed in writing to meet their non-retrievable standards of destruction, OR...

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- No hazardous waste pharmaceuticals down the drain as of TODAY!
- Review controlled substance disposal program in the nursing units
 - Consider a sequestration device if still drain disposing
- AK, IA, PR: your organization has either 60 days or next Biennial Report to notify EPA if you are CURRENTLY SQG or LQG; compliance expectations now however.
- NJ, PA, KY: check with your state but most likely they have adopted the entire rule and the same timeline applies.
- All others stay alert for when your state will adopt and if the less restrictive aspects are included.













- ► Healthcare entities are gearing up for this change in handling HDs Deadline is December 1, 2019
- Similar to categorization of waste; each individual drug must be assessed for risk as opposed to class of drug
- Assessment of Risk documentation should be available for any survey or inspection
- ▶ Neither RCRA nor NIOSH apply to consumers











Meeting the August 21, 2019 Federal Effective Date

- Do you stock ANY hazardous waste pharmaceuticals that are controlled substances?
 - If so, determine if any controlled substances are being drain disposed and immediately begin discussions on alternative sequestration and disposal methods
- Are any other hazardous waste pharmaceuticals being drain disposed?
 - If so, immediately begin developing alternative compliance disposal methods as hazardous pharmaceutical waste





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