

SAFE DISPOSAL OF FENTANYL PATCHES

A fentanyl patch is a medicated adhesive patch that is placed on the skin to deliver a specific dose of fentanyl through the skin.

Improper disposal of these patches is a risk for illicit use and overdose and can also cause serious harm to members of the public including children, pets, and sanitation workers, as well as our water supply.

A used fentanyl patch may still contain more than 50% of the labelled amount of fentanyl – enough to cause serious harm or even death.

Placing used fentanyl patches in the garbage or flushing them down the toilet can cause serious harm to children, pets, sanitation workers, and our water supply.



How to Safely Dispose of Fentanyl Patches

In order to prevent accidental exposure or diversion, please use the following steps to dispose of used fentanyl patches:



Wear protective gloves to prevent accidental exposure to the drug



Fold the patch in half so that the adhesive side is stuck together



Dispose of patch in a tamperproof, childproof storage container (or sharps container)



Bring the container holding the patch to your pharmacy or other medications return location for safe disposal



How NOT to Dispose of Fentanyl Patches



Placing them in the garbage



Flushing them down the toilet

For more information visit:
www.bcpharmacists.org/fentanyl-patches



College of Pharmacists
of British Columbia