

# Drug Disposal in Australia

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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### **How it Works**

#### O: HOW DOES RX DESTROYER PHARMACEUTICAL DISPOSAL SYSTEM WORK?

Rx Destroyer formula begins dissolving medications on contact. As medications are dispersed in the activated carbon slurry, diversion is discouraged, and potential environmental harm is reduced. Product is "ready-to-use", no need to add water. Simply add medications and when container is full discard into your pharmaceutical waste stream.

#### Q: I SEE CAPSULES FLOATING IN RX DESTROYER. HAVE THESE MEDICATIONS BEEN NEUTRALIZSED?

Capsule shells may be less dense than the Rx Destroyer formula. Therefore, you may see some capsules floating in your container. Capsules are manufactured in a variety of materials such as protein-based gelatin and other bio-safe polymers. These components make the shells hard or soft. During the adsorption/destruction/neutralisation process some may appear in the original form while others present as dissolved or collapsed. These shell conditions are considered normal and expected and does not indicate that the medication has not been neutralizsed.

#### Q: HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO ADSORB OR DEEM DRUGS IRRETRIEVABLE?

Rx Destroyer has a 99.99% deactivation rate within 24 hours. Adsorption or irretrievability time varies depending on many factors including environment, drug type, quantity, and cocktail combinations. For this reason, we recommend Rx Destroyer containers that are in use are kept in a controlled and secure location.

#### O: DOES ACTIVATED CARBON RENDER SUBSTANCES NON-RETRIEVABLE?

Activated carbon is a form of chemical digestion. Chemical digestion is recognised as an example of current technology that may be utilised to achieve non-retrievability of Schedule 4 and 8 drugs, as outlined in the Medicines and Poisons Act 2019.

## **Use Guidelines**

#### Q: CAN I USE RX DESTROYER PHARMACEUTICAL DISPOSAL SYSTEM MORE THAN ONCE?

Rx Destroyer pharmaceutical disposal system is a multiple use system. Continue to add medications until contents reach 5cm from the top. When not in use, always store in a controlled, safe, and secure location.

#### Q: IS THERE AN EASIER METHOD TO MASS LOAD MEDICATIONS INTO THE RX DESTROYER?

Rx Funnels are available as an optional accessory and allows for easy and convenient dispensing of mass quantities.

#### Q: WHY AND WHEN ARE THE RX DESTROYER HARDENER POUCH(ES) ADDED TO THE RX DESTROYER LIQUID **BOTTLES?**

Rx Destroyer Hardener helps prevent potential messy liquid spills in the waste stream. The dust free formulation converts Rx Destroyer contents to solid gel. Once your Rx Destroyer bottle is full, simply add the sealed hardener pouch, which comes with every bottle purchased. The pouch wrapper is designed to begin dissolving on contact. Some medications, drugs or combinations may not be compatible with Rx Destroyer Hardener Packets due to their chemical composition.

Prior to discarding, secure the cap and gently shake bottle until the fluid becomes a non-movable solid gel (Converts to gel normally within 5 minutes).



## **Medication Compatibility**

#### O: WHAT ITEMS MAY NOT BE PUT IN THE RX DESTROYER PHARMACEUTICAL DISPOSAL SYSTEM?

- DO NOT add effervescent or antacid or gassing medications.
- DO NOT add hardware such as syringes, glass or bottles. Dispose of physical vials and syringes into yellow sharps
- DO NOT place Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) or any hazardous pharmaceuticals in container unless user has determined they can safely incinerate or dispose according to rules & laws under which they are governed.
- DO NOT add medications insoluble in H2O or oil-based medications.

For any additional compatibility questions, please refer to the compatibilities list on our website.

#### Q: CAN RX DESTROYER PHARMACEUTICAL DISPOSAL SYSTEM ACCOMMODATE TRANSDERMAL PATCHES?

Yes. For disposal, simply remove the packaging and seal to expose medicated surface and drop into your Rx Destroyer All-Purpose formula container. If patch is large, Rx Destroyer suggests folding the patch with its skin surface facing outward. With regard to pharmaceutical waste disposal, and other regulated activities associated with pharmaceuticals, always follow applicable federal, state and local regulations.

#### Q: WHAT IS THE PROCESS IF HAZARDOUS MEDICATIONS ARE INADVERTENTLY LOADED INTO RX DESTROYER?

Generators are ultimately responsible for product contents. If hazardous medications are loaded into the RX Destroyer, then the bottle must be closed off and immediately disposed of in a pharmaceutical or cytotoxic waste bin, dependent on the nature of the hazardous medication.

Consult supervisor for facilities, local, state, or federal rules/guidelines with regard to pharmaceutical waste disposal, and other regulated activities associated with hazardous medications.

#### Q: CAN ALCOHOL SUCH AS ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL BE USED IN RX DESTROYER?

Alcohol is considered flammable and subsequently considered hazardous. Hazardous items are not to be placed in Rx Destroyer.

## **Container Disposal Guidelines**

#### O: WHAT DO I DO WHEN THE CONTAINER IS FULL?

Once your Rx Destroyer reaches the fill level, add the attached Hardener Pouch contents to the container. Secure the cap and gently shake bottle until the fluid becomes a non-movable solid gel (Converts to gel normally within 5 minutes).

Once complete, add the RX Destroyer bottle to your pharmaceutical waste

Always review your company's processes and policies or consult local, state or federal agencies for regulations that apply to your facilities prior to use.



#### Q: WHAT IS THE SHELF LIFE OF RX DESTROYER?

Rx Destroyer products are manufactured on-demand and are processed based upon common FIFO (First-In, First-Out) inventory methods. Subsequently, orders shipped have a "Born On" date no later than 30 days prior to ship date.

#### Shelf-Life Guidelines:

- Unopened containers (5) years.
- Once medications have been added, no longer than (1) year is suggested. If additives are bio based, user may want to dispose as soon as possible to avoid odours and/or potential mould growth as it is impossible to predict all additive combinations.

With regard to pharmaceutical waste disposal, and other regulated activities associated with pharmaceuticals, always follow applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

## **Important Documentation**

#### Q: WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR WITNESSING THE DISPOSAL OF SCHEDULE 8 DRUGS?

All states have requirements around witness destruction of Schedule 8 drugs, and require an authorized person to dispose of them in the presence of an authorized witness. Each state has their own documentation requirements.

With regard to pharmaceutical waste disposal, and other regulated activities associated with pharmaceuticals, always follow applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

#### Q: WHERE CAN I FIND RX DESTROYER SDS SHEETS?

SDS Sheets available upon request.

#### Q: CAN MY WASTE MANAGEMENT COMPANY TRANSPORT AND PROCESS RX DESTROYER?

Waste Management companies adhere to strict regulations and guidelines for the transportation of pharmaceutical waste, with transporters and treatment facilities requiring EPA licensing.

Once Rx Destroyer enters your pharmaceutical waste stream, your preferred waste management provider can collect as usual.

With regard to pharmaceutical waste disposal, and other regulated activities associated with pharmaceuticals, always follow applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.



## Safety

#### Q: WHAT IS TO BE DONE IF EFFERVESCENT OR GASSING MEDICATIONS WERE INADVERTENTLY ADDED AND THE **BOTTLE APPEARS SWOLLEN?**

DO NOT OPEN. Consult supervisor immediately. Take all necessary steps to safely transfer bottle(s) to controlled disposal area. Review list of additives to ensure gas causing items or combinations of gas causing items are not replicated. With regard to pharmaceutical waste disposal, and other regulated activities associated with pharmaceuticals, always follow applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

#### Q: WHAT IF I SPILL THE RX DESTROYER?

- Rx Destroyer contents are Eco-Friendly and in itself is non-toxic or hazardous.
- Follow facility, local, state, and federal guidelines for cleanup. Always maintain a list of medications added to system in your facilities Medicine Record Log or state equivalent.
- If in doubt, contact Poison Control Center 131126.

## **Compliance Laws & Regulations**

Q: DO SCHEDULE 8 AND SCHEDULE 4 DRUGS REQUIRE TO BE DEEMED AS NON-RECOVERABLE AND NON-**IDENTIFIABLE BEFORE BEING COLLECTED FOR DISPOSAL?** 

VicTAG states that "When destroying any S8 medicines, DHHS advises that they are rendered non-recoverable and non-identifiable. According to the DHHS Waste Guidance Supplement, containers that contain an S8 medicine are considered pharmaceutical waste and therefore must be disposed of in a pharmaceutical bin." "S4 medicines need to be disposed of in the same manner as for S8 described in the section above."

NSW Health states that Schedule 8 medications must be destroyed in such a way that:

- A medication is made unidentifiable (that is, not disposed of intact in the original labelled packaging)
- That a medication is made unusable and unrecoverable (by having them absorbed on to absorbent material such as cat litter or commercial medication disposal product that renders the medication unrecoverable)
- That is not likely to cause damage to the environment and not likely to pose a risk to any person.

With regard to pharmaceutical waste disposal, and other regulated activities associated with pharmaceuticals, always follow applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.



## **Purchasing**

Q: WHERE CAN I PURCHASE RX DESTROYER PHARMACEUTICAL DISPOSAL SYSTEM?

You can order Rx Destroyer at <a href="www.rxdestroyer.com.au">www.rxdestroyer.com.au</a> or contact us at <a href="mailto:hello@rxdestroyer.com.au">hello@rxdestroyer.com.au</a>