

Hi All,

This document is a brief explanation of the spread sheet posted here. The spread sheet contains information about medications and other items commonly received at household pharmaceutical waste collection events. The goal of this document is to make conducting an inventory at collection events as easy as possible.

State laws regarding collections vary. Please make sure you follow all applicable regulations for your area.

Here in N.Y., we no longer need to inventory or even have a pharmacist present at a collection. We do have to sort out any mercury containing products that are turned in. (Our last collection found three items with Hg out 741 pounds of medications collected.) Our group is choosing to gather data anyway and have now combined our data with data supplied by the ME DEC to make this spread sheet. Since we are doing an inventory and using pharmacists, we have to submit pharmacist information to the BNE as part of our permit requirements.

For future events, we will be fully inventorying what is dropped off from every tenth vehicle and will also count all controlled substances received. If you are not going to inventory everything then I strongly recommend doing a strict random sample to make your results statistically valid. To achieve our goals, we will need four or five pharmacists, pharm techs, nurses, or other medical professionals along with four laptops and eight volunteers to do data entry.

The information in this data base is sure to contain errors. Most notable is the lack of units in the drug strength column. This information existed in a separate column and time has not yet allowed it to be transferred into the strength column. I've been advised that having the strength and units together is preferable. Some medications are likely spelled incorrectly; others are trade names rather than generic names, many data fields are blank that should have information in them, etc.

Feel free to modify the spreadsheet to meet your needs. Maybe you would be happy with more or less "form" options for the medications.

My hope is that each of you fixes errors as you find them, add new items, and then send me your improved inventory spread sheet. When enough improvements accumulate an improved version will be posted for everyone to use.

You can use the tabs found at the top of each column to select for any items in that column. I would suggest adding the date for your collection to a bunch of new rows and then selecting for that date. This will hide the data base from view and protect it somewhat from being mistakenly changed while keeping it available for auto fill.

Before sending me your improved spread sheet, please change the name of the file to make it distinct. Thanks!

Comments or questions can be sent to me, the Product Stewardship Institute, and/or the FL pharmwaste Listserv with the subject line, "Inventory sheet..."

Send Pharmwaste mailing list submissions to

pharmwaste@lists.dep.state.fl.us

To subscribe or unsubscribe via the World Wide Web, visit

<http://lists.dep.state.fl.us/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/pharmwaste>

or, via email, send a message with subject or body 'help' to

pharmwaste-request@lists.dep.state.fl.us

Good luck with your collection!

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