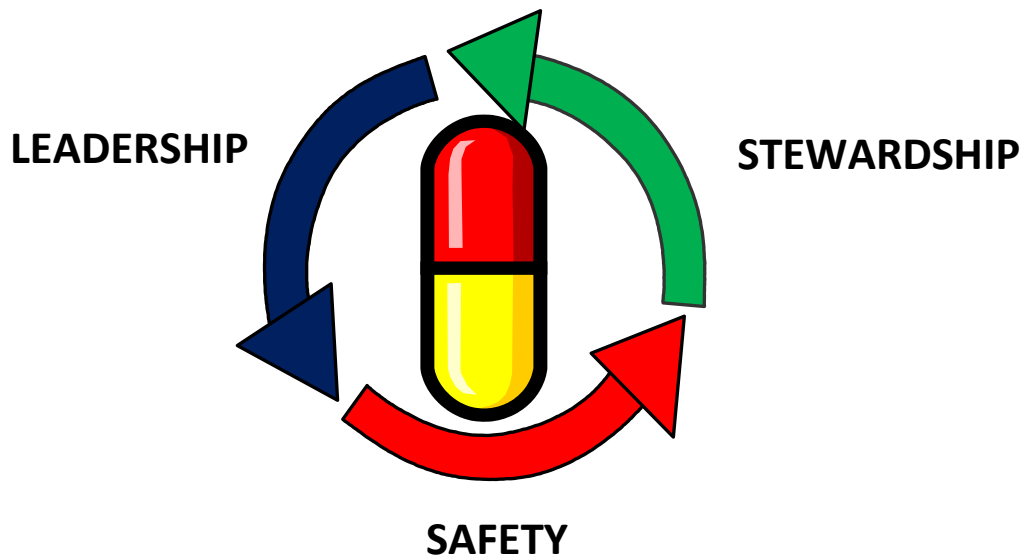


THE NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF DRUG TAKE-BACK AND DISPOSAL PROGRAMS

Second Edition



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Foreword

CRG Medical Foundation for Patient Safety (dba Community Medical Foundation for Patient Safety), a 501(c)(3), Houston-based organization, was formed in December 2003. Our mission and goals incorporated the aims and recommendations of the internationally recognized and accepted Institute of Medicine (IOM) report, *Crossing the Quality Chasm: A New Health System for the 21st Century* published in 2001 and subsequent IOM reports. The IOM, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, National Patient Safety Foundation, Institute for Healthcare Improvement, and other well-recognized agencies have all based their efforts on improving patient safety with regard to effectiveness, efficiency, timeliness, equity, and patient-centeredness.

In spring 2004, the Foundation joined a national steering committee to examine the issues of unused and expired medicines (UEMs). Using the Foundation's new organizational framework Community of Competence™ we identified major stakeholders and the prime beneficiaries of organized drug take-back programs. See model (Figure 1) on page 3. By fall 2004, we created the *National Unused and Expired Medicines Registry*, the first national database to systematically collect data on UEM (Section 12). We created the first standardized data collection instrument and protocol to classify UEM and to determine the cost of unwanted medicines, therapeutic categories, and potential environmental impact. Our Registry currently has nearly 30,000 individual prescription and over-the-counter medicines representing about 3 million pills, capsules and tablets. Our standardized data collection instrument (Appendix 5) can be downloaded from our website. We created our *Annual Survey Form for Drug Take-Back and Disposal Programs* to collect information on the location, type of collection and destruction methods, classification system, purpose of the program, and other variables.

Our *National Directory of Drug Take-Back and Disposal Programs* is the first of its kind in the nation. If your program is not listed, please complete and return the *Annual Survey* provided in Appendix 6. Your information will help us compile a comprehensive directory of invaluable resources that communities across our country can use. The Annual Survey is conducted each year in March. We update our list of programs yearly and post the information on our website and several other websites.

Our research team is proud to present the Second Edition of the National Directory. Since the First Edition published in 2008, we expanded the current edition with new sections to include states prescription monitoring programs, controlled substances authorities, environmental agencies, poison control centers, and health departments. The total number of take-back programs and events today increased by 645% with 492 programs in 30 states, compared to only 66 programs in 17 states listed in the First Edition, 2008. See map (Figure 2) on page 59. New federal and state laws have been passed to promote safe and legal return of UEM, thereby making collection and disposal of UEMs more attractive today than 2 years ago. One important legislation in particular is the *Secure and Responsible Drug Disposal Act*, 2010 (Section 9).

The National Directory is published as an indispensable reference for all healthcare stakeholders to contribute, share, access, and utilize valuable information on unused and expired medicines. It is an important component of our *National Unused and Expired Medicines Registry* and serves as the official roster of all the take-back programs and the basis to learn best management approaches and practices to address the UEM epidemic and to develop a cost-effective regional or national system to safely collect and properly dispose of UEM.

Elizabeth A. Smith, Ph.D., Founder
Community Medical Foundation for Patient Safety
July 10, 2011

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