



**Pharmacy Purchasing and Products releases article on Pharmacy Waste Practices  
Ridgewood, NJ – December 2009**

Pharmacy Purchasing and Products published results of a nationwide study of the waste practices of hospital pharmacies in the fourth quarter of 2009. In this study, 260 randomly selected Directors of Pharmacy reported the waste practices of their institutions. The full results are available at <http://www.pppmag.com/pp-p-green-supplement-2009/going-green-2009-the-struggle-toward-compliance>.

Waste Management provides a host of both consulting and treatment and disposal solutions for pharmaceutical waste generated in hospitals. The survey conducted by Pharmacy Purchasing and Products established that directors of pharmacy are increasingly reviewing and revising their waste practices. Eighty-eight percent of respondents reported that they were receiving a high level of institutional support to manage hazardous pharmaceutical wastes. Sixty-seven percent of all facilities acknowledged a strong commitment to compliant waste practices. Over twenty percent of pharmacy directors who reported using consulting services reported using PharmEcology®.

The study found that there was an increase in questions from regulators relative to hazardous drug waste practices this year and there was a significant uptick in recommendations and citations issued relative to these issues.

According to Charlotte Smith, Director of Pharmaceutical Services, Waste Management and founder of PharmEcology®, “The compliant management of pharmaceutical waste is rapidly becoming a core competency for both the pharmacy department and the entire healthcare facility. As the evidence of drugs in the environment and their potential adverse effects continues to mount, directors of pharmacy have the opportunity to lead their organizations into a more sustainable future by practicing total life-cycle medication management.”

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