

The information within this chart applies to medications prescribed (and verified, if patients' own med) and actively being administered to patients. For example, this chart addresses the scenario in which a patient's own medication has been verified and ordered for administration while the patient is at the PHF instead of being locked and stored in a security bag.

If a medication is not administered for any reason:

	If packaging is intact...	If packaging is NOT intact...*	Disposal process:	Disposal documentation:
Pharmacy-Dispensed Controlled Medication	Return to the bin designated specifically for returned controlled substances in Pyxis MedStation.	Follow disposal procedures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place into container designated specifically for disposal of controlled substances. All medications (e.g., tablets, capsules, liquids, patches) placed directly in the container. No separate bottle needed for liquids. 	Record disposal in Pyxis MedStation. Digital authentication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 LNS and 1 RN; OR 1 pharmacist and 1 RN If Pyxis MedStation inoperable, use Controlled Medication Disposal Log (Att. A).
Patients' Own Medication (Controlled)	Return to designated storage area.	Follow disposal procedures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place medication into container designated specifically for disposal of controlled substances. All medications (e.g., tablets, capsules, liquids, patches) placed directly in the container. No separate bottle needed for liquids. 	Record disposal in Controlled Medication Disposal Log (Att. A). Physical signatures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 LNS and 1 RN; OR 1 pharmacist and 1 RN
Non-Controlled Medication	Return to original medication bin in Pyxis MedStation.	Follow disposal procedures.	For all non-controlled medications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-Hazardous: Place into container designated specifically for disposal of non-controlled medications. P-listed: Place into container labeled "RCRA Hazardous Waste Container". Inhalers/Other Aerosols: Place into incompatible container labeled "Hazardous Pharmaceutical Waste Pressurized Aerosols and Inhalers". Liquid medications must be placed in a designated bottle or vial prior to disposal. Liquids cannot be poured directly into the container.	Record disposal in Pyxis MedStation. Digital authentication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 LNS; OR 1 pharmacist and 1 LNS If Pyxis MedStation inoperable, use Non-Controlled Medication Disposal Log (Att. B).
Patients' Own Medication (Non-controlled)	Return to designated storage area.	Follow disposal procedures.		Record disposal in Non-Controlled Medication Disposal Log (Att. B). Physical signatures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 LNS; OR 1 pharmacist and 1 LNS
Over-the-Counter Medication	Return to storage area.	Follow disposal procedures.		Record disposal in Non-Controlled Medication Disposal Log (Att. B). Physical signatures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 LNS; OR 1 pharmacist and 1 LNS

* Other reasons for medication disposal...

- medication is expired
- only partial doses remain
- medication has been contaminated
- medication has entered a room in which the patient is on Isolation Precautions

What is digital authentication?

- When witnessing a medication disposal, enter user name and bio ID or password into the Pyxis MedStation system instead of a physical signature.

For more information, see these policies:

- PHF Medication Disposal and Destruction
- Pyxis Medication Disposal
- Pyxis Downtime