

DISPOSITION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

The Drug Enforcement Administration has allowed an optional method for the disposition of Controlled Substances in long-term care facilities in Minnesota employing a consultant pharmacist. Drugs in Schedules II through V may be destroyed in the facility in accordance with the following conditions.

1. All controlled substances destroyed must be destroyed according to policies and procedures developed by the consultant pharmacist. Destruction must occur in the presence of the administrator or licensed nurse, and either the consulting pharmacist, vendor pharmacist, or licensed nurse.
2. The method of destruction must be in accordance with the laws and rules concerning pharmaceutical waste that are enforced by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Home health agencies should contact the MPCA for additional information on permissible methods of destruction.
3. A copy of the certificate of destruction with signatures shall be retained in the facility for two years.

This form can also be utilized for the recording of the destruction on **non**-controlled drugs. When so used, neither the form title nor the certification statement would be applicable. The form title could be changed so as to read "**NON-CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.**" The certification statement could be ignored and/or crossed out. A pharmacist is **not** required to witness such destruction. Another facility staff person could serve as the witness. The completed form would not be sent to DEA but placed into the resident's health care record. The medications of only one resident would be entered on any one form. Resident's identification data should be present on this form.

NOTE: Controlled drugs should *not* be returned to the pharmacy for destruction or for re-use.