



# Guide for Proper Identification and Disposal of Controlled Substance Wastage in CsRx® Containers

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) strongly encourages all DEA-registered practitioners to adhere to security controls and procedures to mitigate the risk of controlled substance wastage being diverted.

The DEA places [substances into one of five schedules](#). Schedule I substances have a [higher potential for psychological and/or physical dependence](#), whereas Schedule V drugs have the least potential for abuse. Prescription opioids, such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, and morphine are Schedule II controlled substances.

Although additional measures are recommended, drug sequestration units, such as CsRx® containers, are part of the solution to securely manage controlled substance wastage which helps prevent diversion. Wastage is the portion of controlled substances left over following administration to a patient. CsRx® containers are incinerated, helping to keep active pharmaceutical ingredients out of waterways compared to disposing down the drain.

**How do you know if CsRx® is the right solution for your business? Answer the following questions:**

Are you a DEA registrant (meaning do you have a license to dispense controlled substances)?



Are you looking to dispose of wastage (NOT controlled substance inventory)?



Eligible for CsRx®

**Not eligible for CsRx®,  
Seal&Send™ Consumer Medication  
Mail Envelopes, and MedDrop™  
Medication Collection Kiosks**

**Next, ensure that you and your organization know which controlled substances can go in a CsRx® container and which cannot, by following the guidelines below.**

## ✓ Controlled Substances That Can Go in CsRx® Containers

Waste generated from administration of controlled substances Schedules II-V can be disposed of in CsRx®

**Some examples:**

- Partial vial of testosterone at a clinic
- Fentanyl patch removed from a patient at an ambulatory surgery center
- Partial syringe of ketamine from a veterinary clinic
- Partial IV or PCA pump of morphine from a hospital surgical area

## ✗ Controlled Substances That Can NEVER Go in CsRx® Containers

- Controlled substance inventory
- Schedule I controlled substances with no currently accepted medical use per the DEA, including Heroin, LSD, and Marijuana
- Controlled substances from ultimate users

**Some examples:**

- Expired vial of testosterone at a clinic
- Box of fentanyl patches in an ambulatory surgery center
- Full/unopened vial of ketamine from a veterinary clinic
- Expired vials of morphine from a hospital pharmacy
- Unopened cups of methadone at a narcotic treatment center
- Contents of syringes should be emptied into CsRx® containers, but needles must be placed in sharps containers.

**Learn more about [Stericycle's CsRx® Controlled Substance Waste Service](#), which is designed to help facilities mitigate drug diversion by securely collecting controlled substance wastage.**



We protect what matters.