



Medical Supplies You Should NOT Accept or Distribute

1. Prescription Medications (RX Only)

You may **never** distribute prescription drugs unless you are a licensed pharmacy or medical provider.

This includes:

- Oral prescription medications (any pills or liquids)
- Injectables (e.g., insulin, biologics)
- Topical prescription creams or ointments
- Controlled substances (Schedule II–V)

Key issue: Federal law (FDA + DEA) strictly prohibits redistribution.

2. Opened, Used, or Unsealed Medical Supplies

Even if the item is normally over-the-counter:

- Opened packages of gloves, gauze, masks, syringes
- Any supply without original, intact packaging
- Items with missing labels or lot numbers

Key issue: Infection control, liability, and inability to verify sterility.

3. Expired Medical Supplies (with limited exceptions)

You should not distribute:

- Expired wound care supplies
- Expired diagnostic tests
- Expired sterile supplies

Common exception: Some organizations allow *slightly expired, non-sterile* items **for personal use only** with explicit disclaimers—but this still carries risk and should be avoided unless policy-approved.

4. Sharps and Injection Supplies

Do **not** distribute:

- Needles or syringes
- Lancets
- IV kits
- Insulin pens (even unused)

Key issue: Sharps disposal laws, medical licensing, and high liability.

5. Medical Devices Requiring Prescription or Clinical Oversight

These typically require a licensed provider to dispense and train users:

- CPAP / BiPAP machines
- Oxygen concentrators or tanks
- Nebulizers with prescription meds
- Infusion pumps
- Feeding tubes or enteral supplies
- Ventilators

6. Diagnostic & Monitoring Devices (Prescription-Based)

Do not distribute:

- Blood glucose meters **with test strips**
- Continuous glucose monitors (CGMs)
- Cardiac monitors
- Blood pressure monitors that require calibration or medical interpretation

7. Home Medical Supplies with Bodily Fluid Exposure Risk

Avoid distributing:

- Used catheters

- Ostomy supplies (unless sealed, new, and policy-approved)
- Suction equipment
- Urinary drainage bags

8. Recalled Medical Products

Do not accept or distribute:

- Items listed on FDA recall notices
- Products without traceable manufacturer info

9. Medical Supplies Requiring Patient-Specific Fitting

These pose risk without professional fitting:

- Orthotics or braces requiring prescription fitting
- Prosthetic components
- Custom compression garments

10. Any Item That Requires Medical Instructions You Cannot Provide

If safe use depends on:

- Clinical training
- Medical diagnosis
- Prescription dosing
- Monitoring or follow-up

We Care Tucson does not accept or distribute prescription medications, sharps, or medical supplies requiring a prescription, clinical oversight, or sterile chain-of-custody. All distributed medical supplies must be new, unopened, unexpired, and approved under organizational policy.