

# Disposing of medicines properly can make a difference



## Disposing of unwanted or expired medicines



Return unwanted or expired prescription and over-the-counter drugs to a drug take-back program, or follow the steps for household disposal below.



Do not flush expired or unwanted prescription and over-the-counter drugs down the toilet or drain unless the label or accompanying patient information specifically instructs you to do so. This keeps drugs from entering our water sources.

## Steps for household disposal



1. Take your prescription drugs out of their original containers.



3. Mix drugs with an undesirable substance, such as cat litter or used coffee grounds.



2. Conceal or remove any personal information, including Rx number, on the empty containers by covering it with permanent marker or duct tape, or by scratching it off.

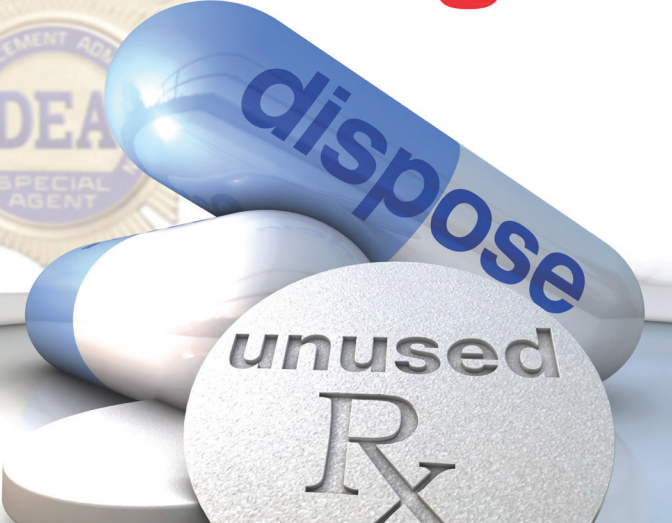


4. Put the mixture into a disposable container with a lid, such as an empty margarine tub or into a sealable bag.



5. The sealed container with the drug mixture, and the empty drug containers, can now be placed in the trash.

**Got Drugs?**



Quest Diagnostics is proud to support the DEA's drug take-back initiative  
[QuestDiagnostics.com/takeback](https://www.questdiagnostics.com/takeback)