

GUIDELINES FOR SAFE DISPOSAL OF DEFECTIVE AND EXPIRED DRUGS, COSMETICS, HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES AND MEDICAL DEVICES

SCOPE

In pursuance of **Sections 132 of the Public Health Act, 2012, Act 851**, these Guidelines are hereby made to provide for the proper handling, treatment and disposal of drugs so as to protect human health and the environment from potential hazards.

2. DEFINITION OF TERMS

In these Guidelines, unless the context otherwise requires,

"Authority" means the Food and Drugs Authority

"product" means drugs, cosmetics household chemical substances and medical devices

"defective product" means a product whose colour, shape, package, content or any of its attributes are found not to conform to that which is provided in the market authorization.

"expired product" means a product which is still made available for use or distributed after its declared shelf-life or use-by date is past.

3. REQUIREMENTS

3.1 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- a) No person shall dispose of any product unless with permit from the Authority
- b) Approval of application and sanctioning of disposal of any product shall be sought from the Authority
- c). The application shall state the nature of products and the reasons for the destruction
- d). The application shall include an inventory of the products to be destroyed and shall be completed as specified in Schedule ...

- e. The applicant shall pay a prescribed fee for destruction as specified in Schedule ...
- f. The applicant shall, with technical assistance from the Authority, sort or separate the products into various categories for which different disposal methods are required.
- g. The applicant shall arrange with the appropriate waste management authority to assist in the destruction.
- h. The applicant shall arrange the means of conveyance of the products to the site of destruction.
- i. Where necessary, representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency, Customs, Excise and Preventive Services & Domestic Tax Revenue Divisions of the Ghana Revenue Authority, Audit Service, The Judiciary, Ghana Police Service and the applicant shall be present as witnesses

3.2 *SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS*

- a. The hospital or regional pharmacist, or an organization or company shall initiate a destruction process after administrative procedures have been completed.
- b. For pharmaceuticals, sorting shall be based on the dosage forms, such as solids, semi-solids, powders, liquids and aerosols.
- c. Controlled substances, anti-infectives, antineoplastics, antiseptics and disinfectants shall require special disposal methods.

