

Managing Leftover HOSPICE MEDICATIONS



Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice provides medication destruction **free to hospice clients**. Patients and their families are often under stress, and managing unused medications on top of everything else can be challenging. You can help your clients destroy their unused medications using the Deterra Drug Deactivation System.



Deterra Drug Deactivation System

This system requires that all medications are removed from all of their packaging before entering the pouch.



- 1- Tear open pouch (do not remove the inner pods)
- 2- Put in medications (i.e. pills, liquids, and patches)
 - Up to a maximum of 90 pills, 12 patches, or 12 ounces of liquids
 - Controlled substances are the top priority - if there is space, include other medications
- 3- Fill halfway with warm water
- 4- Wait 30 seconds to release air (some foaming might occur)
- 5- Seal tightly and shake
- 6- Put pouch in the trash

The pouch contains a material that reacts with the medications once water is added, breaking them down and destroying them. The pouches are made from plant-based, non-toxic materials, and the medications are destroyed so they can no longer enter the environment.

Orleans / Essex
VNA
& **HOSPICE Inc.**

www.orleansessexvna.org • (802) 334-5213

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