



**Return
Unwanted
Medicines**

RETURN UNWANTED MEDICINES TO PHARMACY FOR SAFE DISPOSAL

There is a **FREE** and convenient way to dispose your medicines responsibly via your local pharmacy and it's called **Return Unwanted Medicines (or the RUM Project)**.



STORING UNWANTED MEDICINES IN YOUR HOME CAN BE DANGEROUS



Old medicines lying around the house 'just in case' are dangerous



Medicines that end up in the wrong hands can cause harm



Expired medicines may no longer be effective

Every year in Australia, over 5,000 children end up in hospital due to medicine poisonings.

UNSAFE DISPOSAL OF UNWANTED MEDICINES CAN DAMAGE THE ENVIRONMENT



Don't flush medicines down the toilet



Don't pour medicines down the sink



Don't throw medicines into the garbage bin

Last year over **700 tonnes of medicines** were collected and safely disposed of by the **RUM Project** - potentially preventing them ending up in waterways and landfill.



FOLLOW **3** SIMPLE STEPS TO A SAFER HOME AND CLEANER ENVIRONMENT

READ

Go to your home medicine area. Read your medicine labels, checking expiry dates. Consider whether you need all your medicines.



REMOVE

Remove all expired and unwanted medicines from your home medicine area and place them in a bag or container.



RETURN

Return all your expired and unwanted medicines to your local pharmacy. Your pharmacist will put your medicines in a secure bin for safe disposal.





ABOUT RUM

The RUM Project provides the safest and easiest way to dispose of expired and unwanted medicines. **You can return all your medicines to any pharmacy anytime, for free and safe collection and disposal.**

RUM is funded by the Commonwealth Government and Department of Health. Disposal of the returned medicines is conducted in accordance with regulatory and Environment Protection Authority requirements.

RUM is supported by



The Pharmacy
Guild of Australia

For more information,
visit **returnmed.com.au**
or talk to your local pharmacist.