France has provided consumers with collection and disposal of hazardous sharps waste through DASTRI since 2012.\(^1\) Decree No. 2010-1263 of 22 October 2010 currently ensures that ALL pharmacies are required to administer needle boxes at no cost to the consumer. The French sharp manufacturing industry has the responsibility to fund all program costs associated with DASTRI under Decree No. 2010-1263 of 22 October 2010.\(^10\)

Organizing Body: The non-profit organization, DASTRI, was approved to collect and treat sharps waste in the Decree of December 12, 2012.\(^1\) Pharmacies order needle containers called boîtes à aiguilles (BAA) directly from DASTRI through an online platform or over the phone. Patients then obtain a needle container from local pharmacies upon presenting their prescription.\(^2\) When using a needle container the self-care patient must report to a DASTRI specified collection location for disposal at least 3 months after final closure.\(^3\) Collected sharps waste is then transported for proper disposal. Removal of infectious and risk-related healthcare waste, des déchets d'activités de soins à risques infectieux (DASRI) is done quarterly.

Costs & Funding: DASTRI provides empty needle containers free of charge to pharmacies. Member companies set up individualized systems for the collection and treatment of their products.\(^4\)

DASTRI is funded entirely by drug companies, the health industry, and medical device manufactures.\(^5\) To see a full list of member companies follow link.\(^6\)

Program Facts: To meet specific self-care patients’ needs three needle container sizes are available in different capacities: .5 liter, 1.5 liter, and 2 liter.\(^7\)

2,414,910 million needle boxes were distributed in France in 2017 and nearly 10 million needle boxes have been distributed since 2012.

In 2017 the 2.4 million needle boxes that were distributed corresponds to approximately 82% of the estimated patient need.

89% of patients claim to sort and store their used needles in a dedicated container, of which 81% of patients bring their container to a DASTRI collection point (a 10% increase since 2016).

In 2017 564 tons of perforating waste was collected by DASTRI.\(^8\)
Collection Locations & Accessibility:

- A map of over **15,000 collection locations** is provided on the DASTRI website.
- All pharmacies are required, punishable by fines, to administer needle boxes to patients upon request with presentation of prescription.\(^{10}\)

Timeline:

**September 1999:** The storage conditions of used needles are defined by the **Order of 7 September 1999**, later modified in 2012.\(^{9}\)

**December 2010:** Before any medical device or product is placed on the market, operators, manufacturers, and their agents must have a certified collection container intended to properly dispose of the product. Certified containers must then be given to pharmacies to administer free of charge. **(Decree No. 2010-1263 of 22 October 2010).**\(^{10}\)

**August 2011:** Healthcare conditions requiring self-care are defined by **Order of 23 August 2011**. Additions to healthcare conditions list were made in July 2016 and December 2017.\(^{11, 12}\)

**December 2012:** By the **Order of 12 December 2012** the non-profit organization DASTRI is approved to organize the collection and disposal of infectious waste for self-care patients.\(^{13}\)

**November 2016:** **Article R1335-1** modified by **Decree No. 2016-1590 of November 24, 2016 – art. 1** defines infectious healthcare waste as hazardous or infectious waste generated by humans or veterinary practices.\(^{14}\)

**December 2016:** DASTRI receives second approval from Ministry of the Environment, Energy and the Sea, for the removal and processing of infectious risk health care waste.\(^{15}\)

Reference List
