

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee for giving me the opportunity to testify before you today. My name is Dr. John Holaday, Chairman and CEO of DisposeRx, Inc, the country's leading site-of-use medication disposal company. Our President, William Simpson, was unable to attend today due to the weather delays.

Our country is in crisis not only from opioid addictions but from the dangers of prescription drug abuse. Drug overdose is the leading cause of accidental death in the U.S. The failure to properly dispose of unused or expired prescription drugs from our home medicine cabinet, managed care facilities, hospitals and hospice centers has dramatically contributed to the rapid increase of prescription drug abuse, accidental poisonings, opioid overdoses and the pollution of our nation's public drinking water supplies.

National policies may have long encouraged improper drug disposal. None of the methods currently recommended for drug disposal are convenient, responsible, secure and most importantly do not prevent diversion of controlled substances. None of these methods incorporate an education component which is directly related to the success of any such program.

THERE IS A BETTER WAY!!

DisposeRx has invested in developing a solution that can help eliminate one of the root causes of prescription drug misuse and abuse which is exposure to unused, unwanted medication in the home. DisposeRx is the gold standard for at home drug disposal. We have developed a product that safely, conveniently and securely allows consumers to dispose of their unused medications in their own home

and when it is convenient for them. This ensures that there is no time lag between dispensing and disposal, eliminating the opportunity for diversion.

Consumers are reaching out for a solution that is simple and safe to use. Data has shown that items returned to drug take back locations often times include such things as nasal sprays, ointments and creams. A survey in the Journal of Drug Abuse revealed that 1.4% of consumers returned their unused medications to their pharmacy or take-back kiosk, that in fact, 54% threw their medications in the trash and more than a third, 35.4% disposed of their medications in the sink or toilet. And what is more surprising is that fewer than 20% of patients reported having received any education as to correct disposal methods. DisposeRx provides patients with an easy solution for drug disposal. Each packet contains a patented blend of non-toxic ingredients that will create a viscous gel when mixed with warm tap water. You simply take your pill bottle with the unused medication, add warm tap water and our patented powder, shake for 30 seconds and then simply throw away in the household trash. The components of the gel sequester, (or encapsulate) the drug so that it cannot be diverted for misuse or abuse. It creates a barrier between direct access to the drug(s) and the drug abuser, therefore rendering the drug(s) non-useable.

Our product is the most tested and trusted product on the market today. DisposeRx has been subjected to rigorous third-party testing for both extractability and environmental friendliness. Extractability testing has shown, once sequestered (or encapsulated) by our patented cross-linking polymers, using common household solvents that an addict would have readily available drugs cannot be retrieved from our viscous gel.

DisposeRx is non-toxic and the majority of the components are listed as “generally regarded as safe (GRAS)” by the FDA. Environmental testing has proven that DisposeRx is neither dangerous nor hazardous to the environment. Incorporated into the mission of the DisposeRx team is the commitment to educating the community on the cycle of medication management. We realize that successful drug disposal is dependent on the inclusion of targeted instruction and patient education. Cleaning out the medicine cabinet will become second nature if the mechanism to do so makes it a realistic, obtainable goal for consumers.

In closing, we are proud to be bringing patients and families a simple and effective solution for safe drug disposal. We are honored to be working with the team at Walmart as they are leading all retail pharmacies by being the first to supply a consumer site-of-use solution that is both fighting our nation's opioid epidemic as well as the dangers of prescription drug abuse. Our mission is to solve the problem of drug disposal, we focus on driving patient education with simple and safe disposal solutions. We fundamentally believe in educating patients on the importance of medication disposal and believe together with retailers, federal agencies and physicians we can remove the barriers facing safe disposal and encourage the adoption of non-toxic site-of-use home disposal solutions.