Dear DO Line: I am a diabetic and need test strips, lancets, and needles for diabetic medicine. These Sharps containers have to be disposed of properly and I have always taken them to Spectrum Health for disposal.

I have been advised that Spectrum Health has discontinued this program as of July 1. Where can I take my full Sharps containers now for safe disposal? Can they be put in the regular trash or recycling if they are sealed and labeled? Thank you. B.P., Greenville.

Dear B.P.: DO Line contacted Leslie Kinnee, public information officer at Mid-Michigan District Health Department. She is and always has been a big help when DO Line needs information.

“Residents can bring Sharps to the Mid-Michigan District Health Department in Stanton,” she told DO Line. “This program is for residents only and not for commercial use.”

The Stanton Health Department is located at 615 N. State St. Once inside the building, and you should follow the signs to Environmental Health. Hours are from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m.

The information points out that Sharps

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Dear C.L.: Thanks for letting us know. This is a VoIP phone number (Voice over Internet Protocol). It is a technology that allows someone to make voice calls using a broadband Internet connection instead of a regular or analog phone line. VoIP is used extensively by robo-callers.

This technology allows someone to autodial more than one phone number at the same time. When someone answers the phone, they start to hear a message. When we receive a call from a phone number we don’t recognize, we let it ring. If someone really wants to speak with us, they will leave a message.

Many people throughout the United States are receiving these calls. Bloggers talking about this online say the voice is heavily accented. Also, several people mentioned that the caller wanted to speak to their wife who had passed away some time ago.

One blogger said an “Asian” sounding woman said she was calling from some medical type company and it was about pain issues. She was selling an oil to help with the pain and promised to send some free. Right.... then she asked for the person's credit card number for shipping charges.

There are also reports the “Asian” salesperson was pushy and rude. Isn't it funny to think that an “Asian” salesperson would be talking about American Medicare? Too crazy.

Anyone over 65 years of age or who qualifies for Medicare due to disability or a chronic condition is at risk of Medicare-related fraud. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) points out that dishonest companies may offer you free medical supplies or exams. It is probably a trick to get your personal information.

Also, if someone calls or sends a message online claiming to be a Medicare plan representative who wants to “confirm” your billing information, stop. It's a scam. Another fake caller will say you must join their prescription plan or you will lose your Medicare coverage. Don't believe it.