BIOMEDICAL WASTE STREAM MANAGEMENT

Disclaimer: This is a GUIDE ONLY and is intended to provide general information. Users of this guide are strongly encouraged to check applicable local regulations.



RECYCLABLE

WASTE

BLOOD



Grey container or yellow pail/bag

Liquid blood, items saturated with blood, fluids visibly containing blood, or microbiology lab waste.

EXAMPLES

- Blood tubing & bags
- Pleuravacs or hemovacs
- Disposable items that are saturated with blood (dripping)
- Used suction canisters
- Microbiology specimens, cultures, and vaccines, and disposable lab supplies that have come into contact with them (pipette tips, swabs, etc.)

NOT ALLOWED

but not saturated with

ANATOMICAL WASTE



Red pail or cardboard box with red liner

All human and animal tissues, organs, and body parts, excluding hair, nails, and teeth.

EXAMPLES

- Biopsy material
- Pathology samples

NOT ALLOWED

Packaging and trash

Cytotoxic waste

Amputations

SHARPS



Yellow sharps container

Items capable of causing punctures or cuts.

EXAMPLES

- Empty needles and syringes
- Empty vials
- Empty ampules
- Scalpel blades
- Trocars
- Scissors
- Disposable instruments
- Suture sets
- Other sharp objects

CYTOTOXIC WASTE



Red sharps container, red pail, or cardboard box with red liner

CYTOTOXIC SHARPS WASTE

Disposed into red sharps container

Sharps contaminated with cytotoxic medication.

EXAMPLES

- Needles and syringes
- Cytotoxic medication vials and ampoules

NON-SHARP CYTOTOXIC

Disposed into red pail or red bag.

Non-sharp items that have come into contact with cytotoxic medication.

EXAMPLES

IV bags and tubing

NOT ALLOWED

Anatomical waste

Pharmaceutical waste

PPE

Medications

NOT ALLOWED

Packaging or trash

PHARMACEUTICAL



Ivory sharps container with blue lid, white Rx pail, or a cardboard box with a red liner

WASTE

RX SHARPS WASTE

Disposed into white sharps container with blue lid.

Sharps containing medication.

EXAMPLES

- Ampoules or vials containing medication
- Syringes with residual medications

NON-SHARP RX WASTE

Disposed into white Rx pail or cardboard box with red liner.

Expired or unused medication.

EXAMPLES

- IV bags with residual medications
- Pills
- Patches
- Ointments
- Oral liquids

NOT ALLOWED

- Cytotoxic medication
- Packaging or trash

CONTROLLED **SUBSTANCES**



Secure a Drug or Rx Destroyer container

Medications classified as controlled substances by Health Canada (narcotics, opioids, etc.)

Remove medication from all packaging prior to disposing into SaD/RxD. Liquid medications must be drawn up and squirted into the container. Empty vials/ ampoules/syringes then go into sharps container. Pill bottles, blister packs, etc. go into the garbage (remove patient identifiers first).

EXAMPLES

- Pills containing controlled substances
- Patches containing controlled substances
- Liquid controlled substances (oral or IV/ injectable)

NOT ALLOWED

- Uncontrolled medications
- Effervescent medications
- Medication packaging

REGULAR



Garbage bin

Waste that requires no further treatment before disposal to landfill.

EXAMPLES

- Food packaging
- Chux/underpads and disposable patient items
- Gloves
- Wrappers
- Masks
- Briefs
- Catheter bags
- Saline IV bags
- Empty IV bags

NOT ALLOWED

any type

Biomedical waste of

Recycling bin

Paper, plastic, and metal items to be recycled.

EXAMPLES

- Non-confidential paper
- Plastic medicine cups
- Plastic bottles
- Cans

NOT ALLOWED

Biomedical waste of any type

- Feces, urine, sputum, vomit UNLESS there is visible blood
- Items that are bloody
- Packaging or trash

DEFINITIONS