

SEGREGATION & PACKAGING OF HEALTHCARE RISK & NON-RISK WASTE

RISK WASTE

YELLOW BAG



- All blood-stained items and all items soiled with body fluids assessed as infectious
- Suction catheters & tubing
- Incontinence waste from known or suspected enteric infections

*** NO SHARPS OR FREE LIQUIDS**

YELLOW SHARPS BIN (with blue or red lid)



- Needles, Syringes & Scalpels
- Contaminated slides & glass
- Sharps tips of clear IV giving sets
- Blood stained glass
- Stitch cutters
- Guide wires/trocars
- Razors

*** NO FREE LIQUIDS**

YELLOW 30/60 LITRE RIGID BIN (with yellow lid)



- Blood administration sets (never disconnect line from bag)
- Contained blood and body fluids
- Non-cultured laboratory waste (including autoclaved microbiological cultures)
- Disposable suction liners
- Redivac drains (ensure drain closure sealed)
- Sputum containers
- Chest drains

*** NO SHARPS OR FREE LIQUIDS**

RISK WASTE

YELLOW 30/60 LITRE RIGID BIN (with purple lid)



- Cytotoxic drugs including infusion lines, left over drug preparations and personal protective equipment used.
- Small quantities of residual medicines or pharmaceuticals left over after administration to patients.

*** NO SHARPS OR FREE LIQUIDS**

YELLOW SHARPS BIN (with purple lid)



- Contaminated cytotoxic sharps, needles, syringes, sharp instruments and broken glass

*** NO FREE LIQUIDS**

YELLOW RIGID BIN (with black lid)



- Non-autoclaved microbiological cultures
- Large / recognisable anatomical body parts
- Placentas with additional leak proof containment
- Large solid metal objects and instruments

*** NO SHARPS OR FREE LIQUIDS**

NON-RISK WASTE

CLEAR BAG



- Incontinence wear (from non-infectious patients)
- Oxygen face masks
- Empty urinary drainage and empty stoma drainage bags
- Clear tubing (e.g. oxygen, urinary catheters, ventilator, naso gastric, IV lines with tips removed)
- Enteral feeding equipment
- Non contaminated gloves, aprons and masks
- Empty continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis (CAPD) bags
- All other household non-risk, non-recyclable waste

*** NO SHARPS OR LIQUIDS**

RECYCLABLE WASTE

GREEN BAG



- Mixed Dry Recyclables - Paper, Cardboard, Tetra Packs, Plastic Packaging / Wrappings, Tins/Cans, Plastic Bottles

*** NO SHARPS OR LIQUIDS**

PLEASE NOTE:

- 1) Do not use waste bags for sharp or breakable items or for liquids
- 2) Close healthcare risk waste bags using "swan neck" when 2/3 full
- 3) Sign and seal sharps bins correctly when 3/4 full or at manufacturers fill line
- 4) Label all healthcare risk waste appropriately at point of generation
- 5) Apply traceability tags to all healthcare risk waste at point of generation
- 6) Use long sharps bins for large trocars, knives, stapling guns etc.
- 7) For all 30/60 litre rigid bins, add absorbent material or gelling agent in sufficient quantities to hold the fluid and prevent leakage.
- 8) For further details on healthcare risk waste, please refer to www.dohc.ie/publications

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Endorsed by:  **IPS** Infection Prevention Society