BIOLOGICAL WASTE CHECKLIST

TYPE OF WASTE AND DESCRIPTION

Clinical Waste:

- Any waste consisting wholly or partly of human or animal tissue, blood or other body fluids, excretions, drugs or other pharmaceutical products, swabs or dressings, or syringes, needles or other sharp instruments, being waste which unless rendered safe may prove hazardous to any person coming into contact with it; and
- Any waste arising from medical, nursing, dental, veterinary, pharmaceutical or similar practices, investigation, treatment, care, teaching or research, or the collection of blood for transfusion, being waste which may cause infection to any person coming into contact with it.

For clinical waste that is also "relevant material", as defined in the Human Tissue Act (HTA), the guidance in the specific section on HTA Waste, below, must be followed.

PACKAGING AND LABELLING REQUIREMENTS

Clinical waste which requires treatment such as incineration is disposed of via the University Hazardous Waste Service.

Clinical waste must be disposed of in the correct coloured clinical waste bags (see guidance below) and via the correct disposal route dependent on the nature of the substances present.

Where possible bags rather than bins should be used as there is not the capacity in the University waste store, or disposable bio-bins (such as the type produced by Econix) which are good for pipettes or where space is limited.

Clinical / Infectious



For infectious or potentially infectious soft clinical waste that is not contaminated (see yellow definition). This can be autoclaved or incinerated depending on risk assessment.

If this waste can be rendered safe on site, then department procedures should be followed for disposal. it must be packaged in an Autoclave Bag, well-sealed and not overfilled. Should be stored indoors in safe location, where not easily accessed or damaged. Autoclave bags MUST NOT contain:

- Sharps/Glass
- ▼ Flammable/Volatile Liquids
- Liquids in sealed containers



Clinical / Infectious (with contamination)



For infectious or potentially infectious clinical waste such as body fluids that are contaminated with chemicals or pharmaceutical/medicinal waste.

Requires disposal by incineration.

Cytotoxic / Cytostatic



Waste consisting of, or contaminated with, cytotoxic and/or cytostatic products which requires disposal by incineration.

Medicinal



Waste medicines, out of date medicines, denatured drugs, which require disposal by incineration.

This includes liquid in bottles, vials, ampoules

Anatomical



Anatomical waste which requires disposal by incineration. Human or animal body parts, organs, blood bags, surgical specimens.

If your work will generate any waste that requires red bag disposal this should be discussed with SHEW before any work is commenced so that appropriate waste streams can be identified.

Offensive



Non-infectious, offensive/hygiene waste which may be recycled, incinerated (waste for energy) or deep landfilled.

Animal By-Products (ABPs):

Animal by-products (ABPs) are defined as entire bodies or parts of dead animals, products of animal origin or other products obtained from dead animals which are not intended for human consumption. Animal by-products are a potential source of risks to public and animal health.

They are split into three key categories - Category 1 (highest risk to public health), Category 2 (high risk), and category 3 (lowest risk).

This type of waste must always be sent off campus for appropriate treatment/disposal depending on the category, usually incineration.

Animal by-product waste must be packaged in specific yellow ABP or anatomical clinical waste bags.

This waste must be kept in a freezer to avoid spoiling.

Examples of ABPs include:

- Anatomical waste
- Animal bedding & manure
- Animal carcasses, hides, skin, hooves, feathers, wool, horns or hair
- Processed animal proteins (PAP)
- Carcasses of animals used in experiments

Relevant Material (Human Tissue)

Relevant Material is defined in the Human Tissue Act (HTA). The treatment of waste under HTA is largely concerned with ethical issues rather than health and safety.

Surplus relevant material or waste contaminated with relevant material must be disposed of sensitively and ethically.

HTA waste must be segregated from all other waste types.

HTA waste must be disposed of in an orange bag for incineration. Bags are to be placed in dedicated bins for collection by approved waste company. These must be either knotted or cable tied (recommended) securely closed to prevent spillage during transport.

If chemicals or medication or possible anatomical waste are present, please contact the hazardous waste service (shew@bath.ac.uk) for advice on correct bags and disposal route to use.

A dedicated Sharps bin must be used for sharps contaminated with relevant material. This must be labelled as such with department and Lab Number for traceability purposes.

Pieces of relevant material that can removed from sharps safely should be done and placed in bags as above.

Please see Sharps section below for further information.

Orange bag for relevant material waste only (no other chemical, medicinal, biological, anatomical or general waste material present).

Sent off campus for incineration.



If your work will generate HTA waste, then this must be discussed with SHEW <u>before</u> any work is commenced. SHEW will advise on type of bags and the disposal route for your waste. Work must only start when the disposal route has been confirmed.

Sharps

Any items that can cause personal injury such as cuts and puncture wounds from handling includes needles, scalpels, blades, broken scissors, microscope slides, small broken glass items.

These items are contaminated with infectious waste; waste which poses a risk of infection (and therefore by definition possesses the hazardous property H9 Infectious)

Orange lid waste: - This waste stream must not contain chemicals, amalgam, medicines or anatomical wastes. The orange clinical waste stream should not contain waste that is non-infectious (for example domestic, offensive, medicinal) or that has additional characteristics that require incineration

Yellow Sharps bin with orange, or yellow (contamination present) lid labelled with Biohazard symbol.

All are sent off campus for incineration.

(medicinal, chemical, and anatomical). Known or suspected to contain pathogens classified in Category B as specified in the Carriage Regulations (ADR).

Yellow lid waste: - The yellow infectious waste stream is used for waste that is infectious, but which has an additional characteristic that means that it must be incinerated in a suitably licensed or permitted facility. The known examples are:

- anatomical waste;
- chemically contaminated samples and diagnostic kits;
- medicinally contaminated infectious waste; and
- · Category A pathogens.





Non-Sharps Waste containing Biological Agents: any waste contaminated with biological material (micro-organisms, cell cultures, GMOs) that presents a hazard to human health. This must be rendered safe (usually by autoclaving) prior to disposal. This is biological material at HG2 and some HG1 (where defined by risk assessment). This waste may have been disinfected in the lab but could still require autoclaving/incineration.

All GMO waste regardless of categorisation must be inactivated by validated means as per the risk assessment.

Includes gloves, wipes, paper towels, syringe barrels, intact glass items such as pipettes/pipette tips, empty vials, and plant matter/soil.

See orange clinical waste for autoclave instructions if required to be rendered safe.

If waste is classified as infectious, there is the potential for it to be infectious or it is unknown then the waste should be treated as clinical waste (see above).