

CLINICAL WASTE

Guidance is provided in HTM01-07 Safe management of healthcare waste.

The management of healthcare waste is an essential part of ensuring that healthcare activities do not pose a risk or potential risk of infection and are securely managed. This UK-wide guidance provides a framework for best practice waste management in order to help healthcare organisations, and other healthcare waste producers, meet legislative requirements as well as identify opportunities to improve waste reduction and reduce the associated environmental and carbon impacts of managing waste.(HTM01-07)

- **Offensive Waste**
e.g pads, catheter bags, stoma bags, used gloves.
- **(Yellow & Black Striped Bag)**



- **Clinical Waste**
e.g Dressings, infected waste, vac therapy etc.
- **(Orange Bag)**



- **Household Waste**
e.g paper, flowers, tissues.
- **(Black Bag)**



It is important that waste is segregated correctly to ensure safe disposal. All staff should know the colour of the bags and what should be disposed in each. Regular audit should be carried out to ensure staff are adhering to the policy. This can be carried out by looking in the bags too check correct items in each.

- Ensure you use a registered waste collector
- Keep assignment notes from the collector
- Train all staff on the segregation of waste.
- Audit the disposal of waste
- Ensure no sharps placed in waste bags.
- Do not transfer waste from one bag to another.
- Keep clinical and offensive waste in a locked container/cupboard prior to disposal.