

# Swansea University

## Waste Management Guidance Note WMGN25: **Infectious Clinical Waste**

- Non-Chemically/Medicinally Contaminated

(Orange Bag & orange lidded clinical waste box)

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Waste Management Guidance Note WMGN25 Solid Infectious Clinical Waste (Orange Bag)	
Location Generated	Laboratory Category
EWC	18-01-03* & 18-02-02*
Transport class & UN number	Class 6.2 Infectious waste (UN 3291) Category A substances (UN 2814/ 2900/ 3549) Category B substances (UN 3373)
Type	Controlled – hazardous waste HP9 Infectious
Disposal Method	Segregated for incineration
Bin/Bag Type	Metal fireproof bin / <b>Orange bag</b> <b>30L orange lid yellow rigid clinical box</b>

## Duty of Care Requirements

EWC 18-01-03\* - Wastes from human healthcare whose collection and disposal is subject to special requirements in order to prevent Infection

EWC 18-02-02\* - Wastes from animal healthcare whose collection and disposal is subject to special requirements in order to prevent infection

**Infectious Waste Definition:** Annex III of Directive 2008/98/EC 'Waste Framework Directive' defines "Infectious" as 'waste containing viable micro-organisms or their toxins which are known or reliably believed to cause disease in man or other living organisms'.

It is a legal requirement under the Hazardous Waste Regulations to segregate hazardous wastes from non-hazardous waste and to ensure all wastes are correctly classified. Incorrectly disposing of hazardous waste via a non-hazardous waste stream can lead to legal and financial penalties dependent upon the severity of the noncompliance.

The Welsh Health Technical Memorandum 07-01: Safe Management of Healthcare Waste<sup>1</sup>, provides comprehensive guidance on the disposal of healthcare waste in line with industry standards, and legal requirements, and outlines the nationally recognised colour coded system for healthcare/clinical wastes.

	<b>Infectious waste non-medicinally/chemically contaminated</b>
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Infectious clinical waste is produced within the research laboratory environment, and during work on human/animal samples and cell lines within a clinical setting as a result of the treatment of a patient with an infection, or suspected of having an infection and are contaminated with the following (but not limited to);

- Body fluids such as whole blood, plasma and serum / Bile / Mucus / Saliva / Urine / Faeces

<sup>1</sup> [Welsh Health Technical Memorandum 07-01: Safe Management of Healthcare Waste](#)

## Waste Items

- Personal protective Equipment (PPE) – Gloves, face masks and aprons
- Sharps – syringes, scalpels, phlebotomy needles etc.
- Paper towels and blue roll
- Wipes, dressings, plasters and bandages
- Incontinence waste
- Empty saline or glucose IV bags and tubing (no active medicines added)

### Note, there must be:

- no chemical/medicinal contamination (use yellow lid bins – WMGN26)
- no liquids placed into orange bags e.g. vials containing blood – these can be disposed of in orange lidded bins

If it is not clear whether any of the items listed above are contaminated with body fluids, the item **must** be segregated from other wastes and placed into orange bag/bin for disposal.

Personal hygiene wastes are not considered infectious waste (unless they are from an infectious person)

Anatomical waste (infectious or non) must be disposed of via red lid waste containers (WMGN24)

## Disposal Instructions

### Internal Storage

All laboratories and clinics producing infectious solid waste must install compliant waste bins. A standard specification has been developed and is available [here](#).

All solid infectious waste should be placed into either:

- orange lidded rigid yellow clinical box or
- orange bags placed in white metal flip top clinical grade bins.

Each bin must have a Hazardous Infectious Solid Clinical Waste Only sign placed onto it which can be found below.



Figure 1 - Orange bag and approved clinical grade bin / Orange lid rigid yellow clinical bin

Under **no** circumstances should any sharps be placed into orange bags, or items that may affect the integrity of the bag, including tips. All infectious sharps must be placed into orange lidded sharps boxes.

Solid items like human/animal faeces should be placed into orange lidded bins.

**Do not place orange bags with infectious-contaminated waste into any of the University's external waste and recycling bins, only into the correct designated yellow wheelie bin.**

### **External Storage / Disposal**

Orange lid yellow rigid bins:

For disposal of orange lidded bins, these can be disposed of by arranging a collection via the Estates Helpdesk '**Waste & Recycling**' tile

Orange bagged waste:



Figure 2 – External yellow bins for temporary storage of orange bags

For disposal, please ensure bags are sealed for transport. Orange bags must be taken back to the following locations;

### **Singleton Campus**

- FMHLS: ILS2 Waste Compound AND side of Grove Building

**No other wastes, or yellow ridged boxes can be placed with orange bags into the external yellow bins as different hazardous waste streams must not be mixed.**

### **Disposal Cost**

There is a charge for this service, please contact [estates-waste@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:estates-waste@swansea.ac.uk)

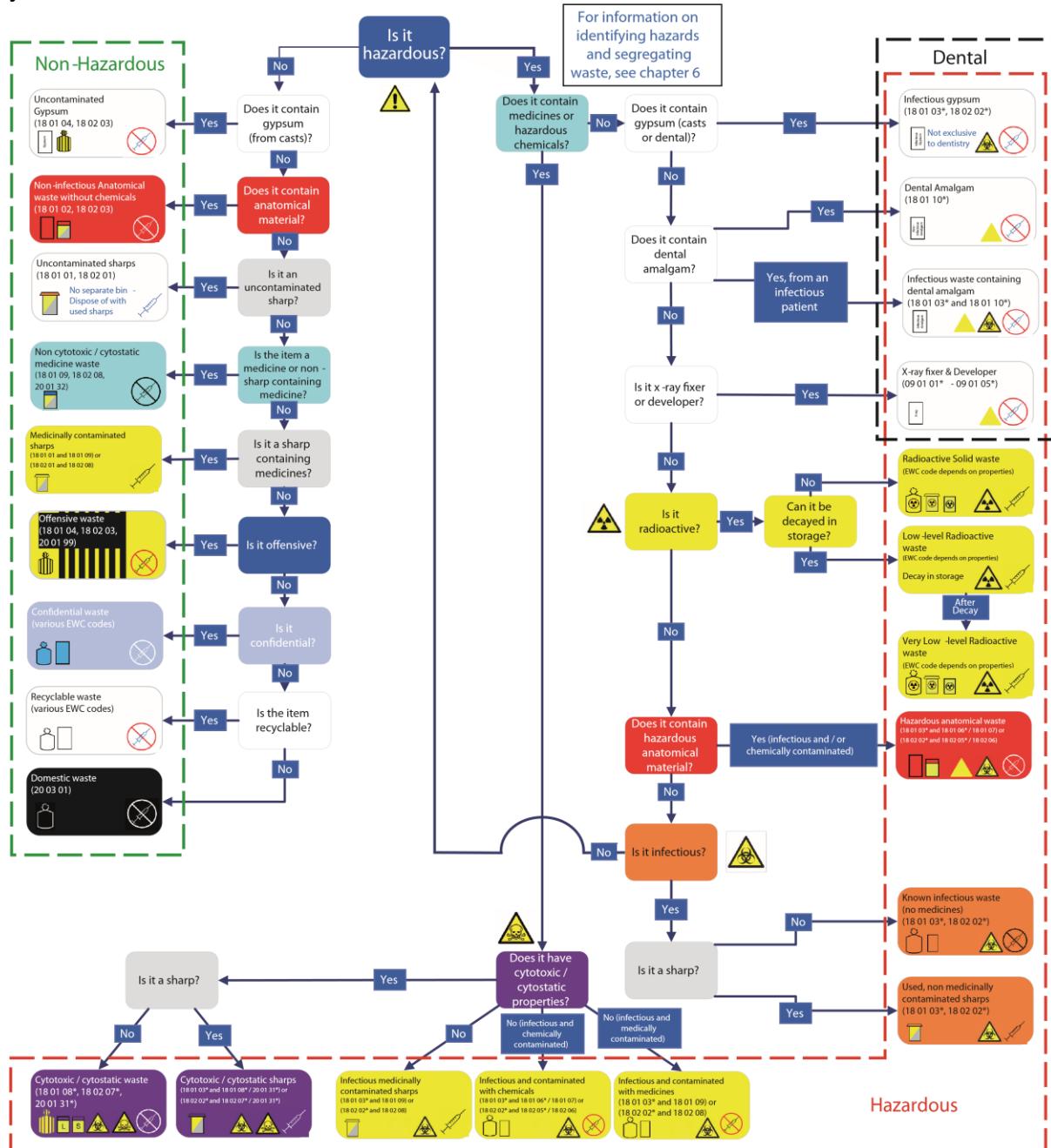
**For further guidance please contact [Estates-Waste@Swansea.ac.uk](mailto:Estates-Waste@Swansea.ac.uk)**

### **Forms & Labelling**

Hazardous infectious solid clinical waste sign can be found below  
All relevant forms, labels and further waste guidance can be found [here](#)

## **Appendix 1: Waste Segregation & Classification Diagram<sup>2</sup>**

Use the following flow diagram to ensure you are utilising the correct colour bin for your waste



**NB:** Whilst this guidance applies specifically to waste from clinical and healthcare settings, it may also be used to inform waste practices in other laboratory environments. However, please refer to the relevant Waste Management Guidance Notes ([WMGN](#)) for other hazardous & non-hazardous wastes.

<sup>2</sup> Health Technical Memorandum 07-01: Appendix 3

# HAZARDOUS INFECTIOUS SOLID CLINICAL WASTE



**ORANGE BAG ONLY**

**SOLID INFECTIOUS CLINICAL WASTE ONLY**

**METAL CLINICAL FLIP TOP BIN ONLY- EWC 18 01 03 \***

## **ITEMS**

**PPE – GLOVES / MASKS / APRONS – WIPES – BLUE ROLL – DRESSING – PLASTERS –  
BANDAGES – INCONTINENCE WASTE CONTAMINATED WITH BODY FLUIDS**

**NO GLASS OF ANY TYPE – SHARPS / CHEMICAL WASTE / DOMESTIC OR RECYCLING WASTE / NO  
VIABLE MICRO ORGANISMS/ CELL CULTURES**

**ORANGE BAGS MUST NOT BE PLACED IN EXTERNAL NON-RECYCLING OR RECYCLING BINS**