

Swansea University

Waste Management Guidance Note WMGN27:

- **Infectious Solid and Sharps
Cytotoxic & Cytostatic Waste /
Medicine waste**

(Purple lidded clinical waste box)

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Waste Management Guidance Note WMGN27 Infectious Solid and Sharps Cytotoxic & Cytostatic Waste/ Medicine Waste	
Location Generated	Laboratory Category CA2
EWC	18 01 03* / 18 01 08* / 18 02 02* / 18 02 07*
Type	Class 6.2 - UN 3291 / Class 6.1 – 1851/3248
Disposal Method	Waste Category A (Autoclaved) Controlled – hazardous waste HP6/ HP7/ HP9/ HP10/ HP11 Segregated for incineration
Bin/Bag Type	Purple topped yellow ridged clinical box 7ltr, 11ltr, 24ltr

Duty of Care Requirements

EWC 18 01 03* “Infectious wastes from human healthcare whose collection and disposal is subject to special requirements in order to prevent infection”

EWC 18 01 08* “Hazardous waste from human healthcare, specifically cytotoxic and cytostatic medicines”

EWC 18 02 02* “Infectious wastes from animal healthcare whose collection and disposal is subject to special requirements in order to prevent infection”

EWC 18 02 07* “Hazardous waste from animal healthcare, specifically cytotoxic and cytostatic medicines”

Indicative treatment/disposal required is incineration in a suitably permitted or licensed facility.

Description; Clinical waste cytotoxic and cytostatic medicine waste, infectious from human and animal healthcare, for incineration only.

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 Waste¹, 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.

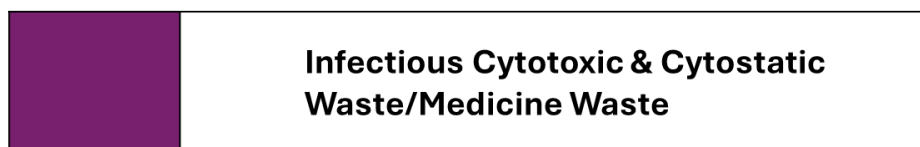


Figure 1: Description

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

Cytotoxic medicines are any drug designed to have a toxic effect on cells. Cytostatic drugs are designed to suppress cell growth.

A medicine is considered to be cytotoxic or cytostatic for waste classification purposes if it has any of the following hazardous properties:

- Acutely toxic **HP6**
- Carcinogenic **HP7**
- Mutagenic **HP11**
- Toxic for reproduction **HP10**

Examples include; **Acrylamide, Mantoux and Ethidium bromide**

Waste Items

The following waste items produced as a result of research, or the treatment of infectious patients and those suspected of having an infection, and may also have been used for the administration of cytotoxic and cytostatic medicines, as well as cytotoxic and cytostatic medicines must be segregated in readiness for incineration;

- Needles and syringes
- Blades
- Scissors
- IV bags, lines and tubing that have had cytotoxic/static medicines added
- Vials
- Testing kits
- Plastic sample tubes
- Serological pipettes
- Plastic tips
- Plastic pipettes
- Sample tubes
- Test strips
- Swabs
- Unused, part used and out of date cytotoxic/static medicines
- **Personal Protective Clothing PPE – gloves and masks, aprons**
- **Blue roll / Paper towels**

Due to the hazardous nature of the waste, bags are not provided. Only purple-lidded clinical boxes may be used.

No waste items: sharps, or non-sharps that may contaminated with cytotoxic and cytostatic medicines can be placed into a yellow clinical waste bag.

Liquid waste containing cytotoxic/static material **must not be disposed to drain** but placed in an appropriate sealed container and placed into a purple lidded clinical waste box for disposal. Contact estates-waste@swansea.ac.uk for further guidance.

Disposal Instructions

Internal Storage

Purple Sharps Bins – Yellow Body Purple Top Class 6.2

All solid and sharps waste contaminated with infectious clinical waste and contaminated with cytotoxic and cytostatic substances must be placed into purple-lidded sharps box for disposal.



Figure 2 – Example of purple-lidded yellow body box

Do not let used cytotoxic/static waste boxes build up in cold rooms or freezers these must be disposed of frequently as there are legal limits imposed on the storage of hazardous waste.

Purple lidded yellow boxes can be ordered/ obtained and signed out from the following locations;

Singleton Campus

- FMHLS - ILS1 Stores

For any other Faculty or PSU contact estates-waste@swansea.ac.uk

Disposal Cost

There is a charge for this service, contact estates-waste@swansea.ac.uk for further information

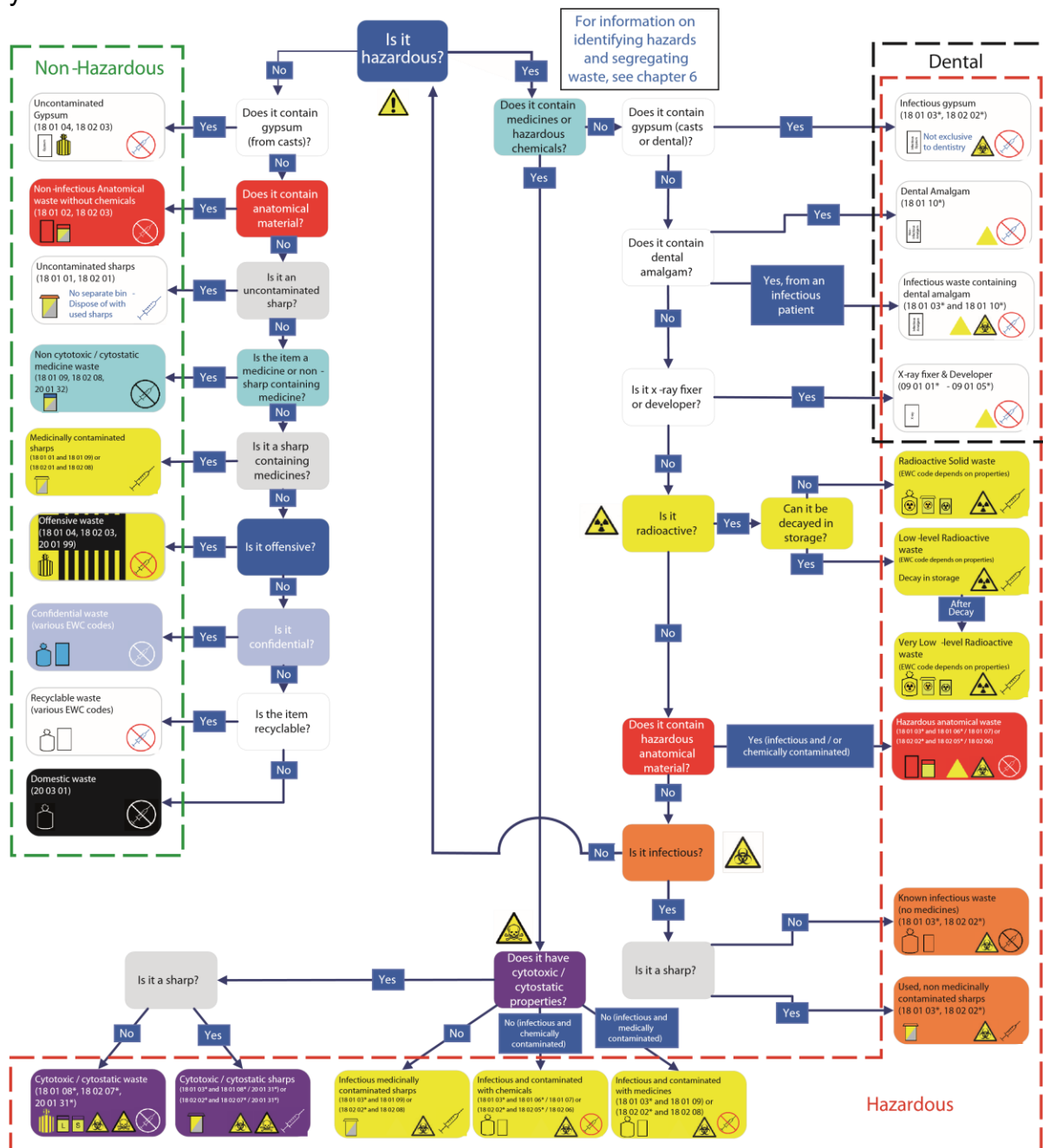
For further guidance please contact estates-Waste@Swansea.ac.uk

Forms and Labelling

All relevant forms, labels and further waste guidance can be found [here](#)

Appendix 1: Waste Segregation & Classification Diagram²

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.

² Health Technical Memorandum 07-01: Appendix 3