

Safe Disposal of Waste (including sharps)

Printable learning resource

What is this resource?

This resource is based on the e-learning module “NES: Safe Disposal of Waste (including sharps)” from the **Scottish Infection Prevention and Control Education Pathway**.

The aim of this document is to make the e-learning content available to learners who

- do not have regular access to a computer and/or a network
- do not yet have the necessary IT skills or confidence to complete e-learning
- have different needs and therefore e-learning is not suitable for them.

All screen captures from the original module are included.

How should this resource be used?

This resource can either be

- uploaded as a PDF file to tablets or other digital devices without internet access, or
- printed. (Printing in black and white is sufficient.)

- All navigational instructions on the screens in this document should be ignored.
- We have given instructions on how to complete interactivities and questions.
- A space has been provided for staff to make any additional notes after each topic.

Internet access

Internet access is required for the following:

Online feedback form and web links for additional resources. Staff should be enabled to use web links and complete the feedback form if at all possible.

Online assessment. The online version of this resource consists of the e-learning module and a separate online assessment, and staff should be enabled and encouraged to complete this online assessment locally.



Safe disposal of waste (including sharps)



Manage waste safely to protect you and others, help the environment and reduce costs.



[Learn how to navigate this module.](#)

Start

Aim and target audience

Safe Disposal of Waste (including sharps) is one of the 10 standard infection control precautions (SICPs).

The aim of this module is to give you the skills and knowledge you need to identify and categorise waste (including sharps) generated as a result of health and social care activities, ensuring that it is safely managed and disposed of.

This module is ideal for **all staff new to health and social care**. It's also suitable for **more experienced staff in any setting** who want to refresh their knowledge or update skills.



It is important that you have completed the **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**, **Occupational Safety** and **Hand Hygiene** modules from the Scottish Infection Prevention and Control Education Pathway before starting this module.



Learning outcomes

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- identify the correct categories of waste and use the right waste streams to safely dispose of waste at source
- handle, bag and tag waste correctly for disposal
- take appropriate action to safely manage waste management issues.

This module focuses on waste management for the prevention and control of infection.



< PREV NEXT >

Waste management matters

Lots of different types of waste are generated where care is delivered. **It can cause harm to you and others if not managed safely.** The safe management of waste is challenging, but waste regulations must be followed.

Much has been done to improve segregation of waste at home to protect the environment and reduce costs.

YOU can help manage waste safely and cost effectively in the workplace. That's good news for the environment and your organisation.



Select each box on the right hand side of the screen to learn more about safely managing waste where you work.

The cost of waste

Waste regulations

Your duty of care

When you're ready, select **Next** to see what this module covers.

< PREV NEXT >



As a result of health and social care practices, significant quantities of waste are generated. This is costly, and it is everyone's responsibility to ensure **waste is managed correctly and safely.**

In 2012, NHSScotland organisations spent over

- **£7 million** on **clinical waste management**
- **£3 million** on **domestic waste** and **recyclable waste management.**

It's your role to **correctly segregate waste**, which **reduces costs.**

Savings made on disposing waste can go directly into improving frontline services.

Waste management regulations



Anyone responsible for the management of healthcare generated waste must comply with certain regulatory requirements.

The three core areas of regulations are:

- Health and Safety
(e.g. Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974; Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH))
- Environmental Protection
(e.g. Environmental Protection Act 1990)
- Carriage by Road (Transport)
(e.g. Carriage of Dangerous Goods Regulations 2009).

Your duty of care



People are at risk throughout the waste management process.

That's why **everyone** who generates and manages waste has a **duty of care** to take **all reasonable steps** to **protect anyone who handles waste** from the point of care through to final disposal.

This duty of care is imposed under section 34 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Individuals and organisations can be prosecuted if the duty of care has not been carried out.

Overview

There are 3 topics in this module:

- **Topic 1:** Waste categories and streams
- **Topic 2:** Making waste safe for disposal
- **Topic 3:** Managing challenges, reporting issues

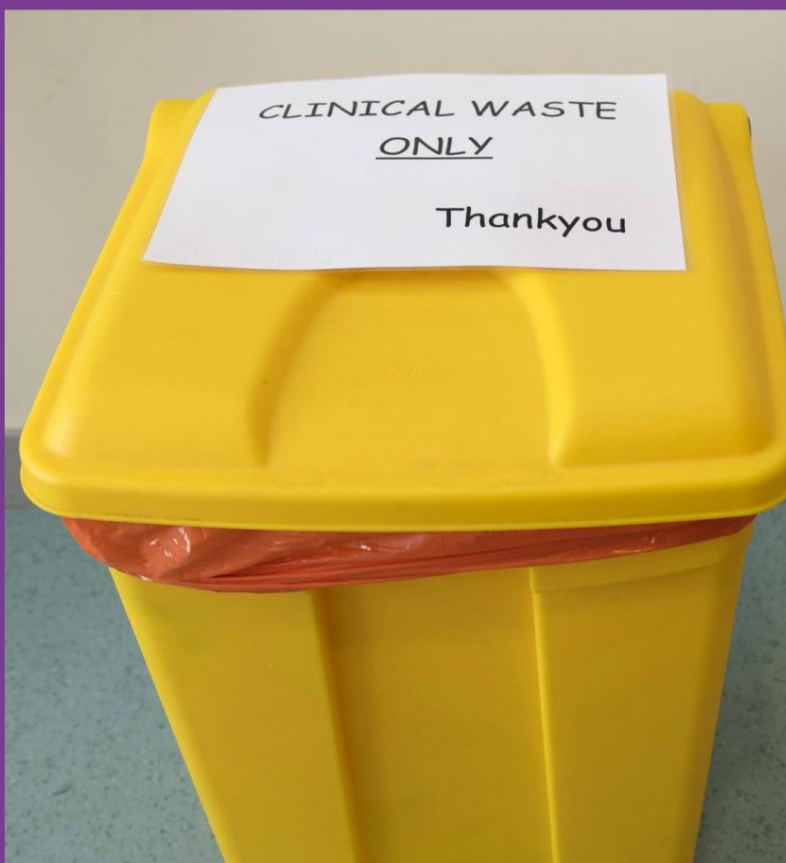
You'll learn from a series of **activities** and **real life scenarios** that will help you put your knowledge into practice where you work. You can learn more by using the links provided in the **Resources** page.

Once you've visited **all the screens** in this module, you can access the separate assessment. You need to **score 80%** in the assessment to pass and get a certificate of completion.



This module will take you about **20 minutes** to complete.

< PREV NEXT >



Topic 1: Waste categories and streams

In this topic, you will learn about the different **waste categories** in health and social care settings.

You will also explore how **healthcare (including clinical) waste** flows in **waste streams** from source through to final disposal, helping to prevent and control infection.



Remember, you can use the **Menu** to jump to any screen or to check where you are in this topic.

< PREV NEXT >

> Topic 1: Waste categories and streams

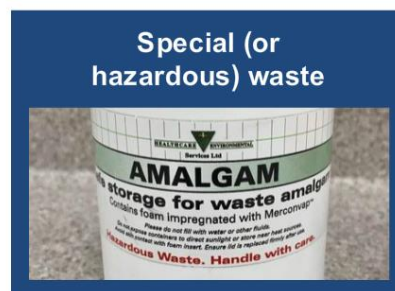
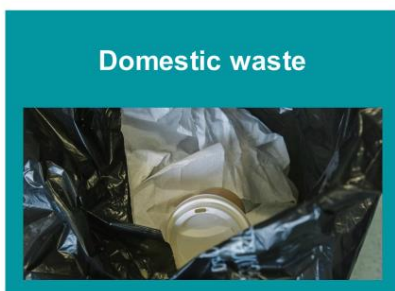
Waste categories

Waste must be segregated into the correct category so it is disposed of into the right waste stream for appropriate treatment and final disposal.

We use **waste streams** to ensure waste is managed and disposed of **safely** and **cost-effectively**, causing **no harm** to others and the **lowest possible impact** on the **environment**.

There are **three main categories** of waste produced in health and social care settings.

Think about the waste produced where you work. Do you know what waste goes into which category?



< PREV NEXT >

Domestic waste



Domestic waste generated as a result of health and social care is similar in composition to waste produced in private households. Some domestic waste is recycled, some goes to landfill.

Domestic waste includes:

- Dry recyclates such as paper, newspaper, cardboard, metals, plastics, cans and glass
- Disposable hand towels used after hand washing
- Residual waste, which is other domestic waste that cannot be recycled.

Almost 20% of domestic waste is food waste although many sites are required to segregate food waste.

Most domestic waste is sent for additional sorting. The food content reduces the value of materials in the bag and prevents the recovery of food waste.

This module doesn't cover food waste or recycled waste because it doesn't pose an infection risk.



Healthcare (including clinical) waste



Healthcare (including clinical) waste is produced as a direct result of healthcare activities no matter the setting. This is divided into three sub categories for disposal: Infectious healthcare (clinical) waste; Medicinal healthcare (clinical) waste; Offensive/hygiene waste.

This module focuses on infectious healthcare (clinical) waste:

Typical examples include:

- soiled dressings, swabs
- disposable PPE used for Standard Infection Control Precautions or Transmission Based Precautions
- wipes or disposable towels used for blood or body fluid spillages
- tubing contaminated with blood or body fluids
- sharps.

Please note: For offensive/hygiene waste, e.g. nappies, incontinence pads, disposable bedpans, etc. (formerly known as SANPRO waste) please follow local policy/procedures.



Special (or hazardous) waste



In addition to waste which may pose a risk of infection, there are additional **special (or hazardous) wastes** from the healthcare environment which require specialist treatment and disposal. Examples include:

- implanted/infectious medical devices (including decontaminated devices)
- amalgam waste (with or without teeth) – hazardous due to the presence of mercury
- radioactive waste
- chemical waste
- cytotoxic and cytostatic toxic and other drugs
- other medicinal waste
- x-ray and photographic waste.



> Topic 1: Waste categories and streams

Waste colour coding

A waste stream is the complete flow of waste from domestic or care areas through to final disposal.

Waste is segregated into the correct waste stream at the point of care using different coloured bags or containers. **The colour coding system for typical healthcare waste streams is in place to ensure that waste is managed appropriately down the line.**

Containers also have different coloured **lids** for different types of waste. You will learn more about this later in this topic.

Some boards/services use **clear bags** for the black waste stream. In care or residential homes, the waste stream colours may be different. Not all areas in healthcare will use all the waste categories.

Always follow your local waste policy provided by your waste contractor.

BLACK stream

Trivial risk
(domestic waste)



ORANGE stream

Low risk
(e.g. soiled dressings)



YELLOW stream

High risk/ethical
(e.g. medicinal products)



RED stream

Special waste
(chemicals)



< PREV NEXT >

> Topic 1: Waste categories and streams

Waste streams – what if things go wrong?

If the wrong items go into the wrong waste stream it can cause harm to others or increase the cost of treating the waste. **In some cases individuals or organisations can be prosecuted.**



Select each item to reveal the outcomes.

Aerosols in the yellow waste stream



Can explode on incineration and cause damage to machinery.

Black stream waste into the yellow or orange stream



Increases the cost of treating the waste.

Sharps in any waste stream bag



Could cause a sharps injury to a waste handler.

Recognisable body part in the orange or black waste stream



Could cause distress to waste handlers. Can lead to prosecution.

< PREV NEXT >

Waste flow - activity

You can ask yourself some basic questions when segregating waste to ensure the right waste goes into the right waste stream.



Select the items below to see how you should dispose of them:

A newspaper

Recognisable anatomical waste

A needle and syringe

A soiled dressing (healthcare waste)

A tooth



See the [Colour-coding segregation for primary waste receptacles](#) for all waste receptacles.



Newspaper

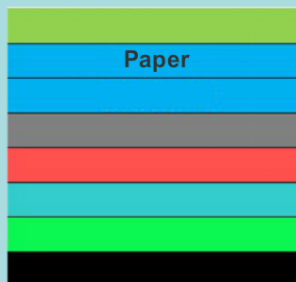
Questions:

Is it potentially **infectious**? → No

Can it be **recycled**? → Yes

Disposal:


Clear plastic bag inside colour coded recycling bin





Recognisable anatomical waste

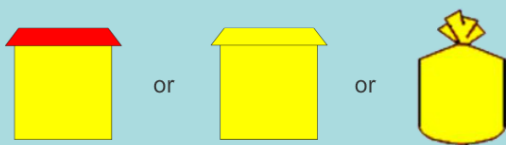
Questions:

Could the waste be **offensive** to anyone who comes into contact with it, for example recognisable body parts and placenta?  Yes

Does it contain liquids which could **leak**?

Disposal:

Red or yellow top leak proof bin, placenta pack or double yellow bag



Needle and syringe

Questions:

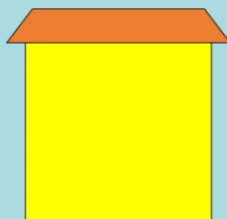
Does it contain a **medicinal product**?

 Yes / No

Disposal:

No:

contains no medicinal product:



Usually orange lidded sharps box. Boxes with different coloured lids might be in use in different locations. Follow your local policy.

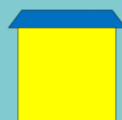
Yes:

chemotherapy products:



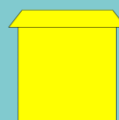
Purple lidded sharps box

other medicinal products:



Blue lidded sharps box

or




Yellow lidded sharps box*

*must be clearly marked



Soiled dressing (healthcare waste)

Question:

Is it contaminated or likely to be contaminated with blood and/or body fluids?  Yes

Disposal:

Orange waste bag



< PREV NEXT >

Tooth



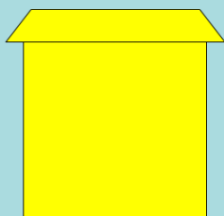
Tooth

Question:

Does it contain amalgam?

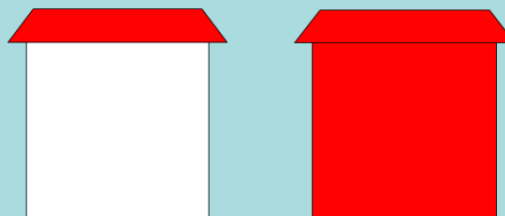
Disposal:

No:



Yellow top leak proof bin

Yes:



Red top bin, either with white or red body

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Waste streams – getting the basics right

Now it's your turn to select which type of waste goes into which waste stream. Take a look at these seven items.



Match each waste item to the correct waste stream, then select **SUBMIT**.

Sharps (no medicine)

Amalgam (from dental practice)

Disposable PPE (clinical)

Disposable hand towels

Amputated finger

Soiled dressing or swabs

Flowers

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 100px; text-align: center;">Black</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 100px; text-align: center;">Clear</div> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 300px; height: 80px; margin: 10px auto; text-align: center;">Drop zone</div> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 100px; text-align: center;">Yellow</div> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 300px; height: 80px; margin: 10px auto; text-align: center;">Drop zone</div> |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 100px; text-align: center;">Orange</div> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 300px; height: 80px; margin: 10px auto; text-align: center;">Drop zone</div> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 100px; text-align: center;">Red</div> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 300px; height: 80px; margin: 10px auto; text-align: center;">Drop zone</div> |

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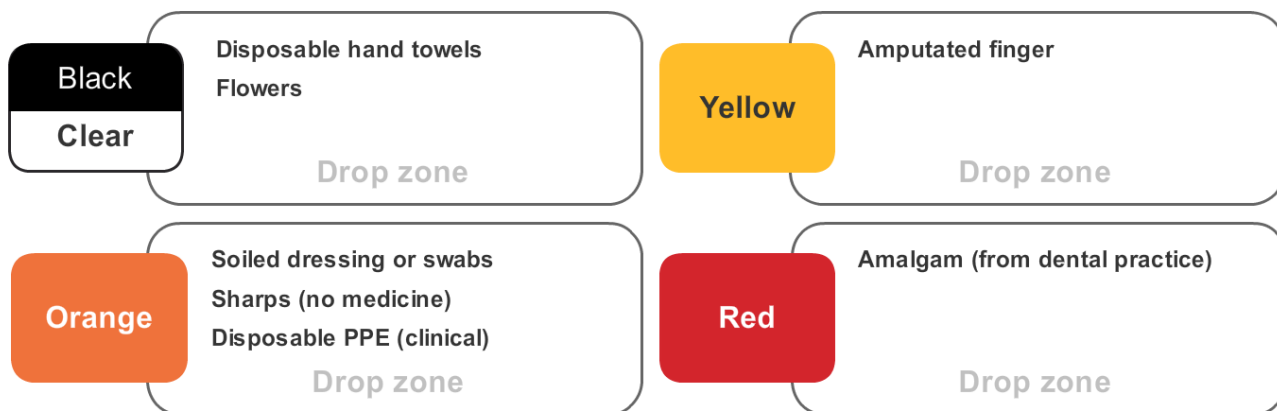
Please fill in the boxes with the correct items and then check the answer and the feedback on the following page.

Correct

That's correct. Flowers and disposable hand towels, if not used after contact with someone in isolation, go into the **black waste stream**. Clear bags can also be used in this waste stream.

Soiled dressings and swabs, sharps without medicine and **disposable PPE (clinical)** go into the **orange waste stream** as they may be contaminated with blood or body fluids.

An amputated finger goes into the **yellow waste stream**, because it is a recognisable body part, and amalgam into the **red waste stream**.



< PREV SUBMIT

> Topic 1: Waste categories and streams

Waste streams – different care settings

Some products are disposed of differently in various settings. Items like nappies, dressings and continence products, including pads, must be disposed of according to the setting and infection risk.



Select each person to reveal how a continence pad from a person without an infection can be disposed of in these care settings.

John is a community nurse providing care at home.

John can double bag and dispose of the pad in the person's household waste with their permission.

Ushrat is a support worker in a hospital.

Ushrat must dispose of the pad in the orange waste stream as it is generated in a clinical setting.

Mary is a carer in a care home.

Mary must dispose of the pad in line with the policy of the waste contractor.

< PREV NEXT >

Notes for Topic 1: Waste categories and streams



Topic 2: Making waste safe for disposal

In this topic you will learn how to:

- correctly **dispose** of waste in bags and containers
- carry out a **swan neck technique** for tying waste bags
- **label** waste bags and containers
- safely **store** waste for uplift.



Remember, you can use the **Menu** to jump to any screen or to check where you are in this topic.

Waste disposal – good practice

Follow good practice before, during and after filling waste bags and containers to **reduce accidents and injuries**.



Select each box to learn more.

BAGS



No more than $\frac{3}{4}$ full and 4kg in weight.

Locate as close to the point of use as possible.

Assess need for PPE when handling bags.

Don't use for sharp objects.

Never remove items or reopen sealed bags.

CONTAINERS



Follow the manufacturer's instructions for correct assembly.

Don't fill above the manufacturer's fill line.

Locate as close to the point of use as possible.

Never reopen sealed containers.

Never remove items after disposal.



Select this [job aid](#) to learn more general **good practice tips** about **sharps** containers.

Sharps Container Tips

Sharps containers **should**:

- Have a completed label.
- Have a dedicated handle.
- Be located and secured in a safe position that avoids spillage.
- Be located at a height that allows the safe disposal of sharps.
- Be located out of the reach of children.
- Be located away from public access areas.
- Be disposed of when the fill line is reached.
- Be temporarily closed when not in use in all clinical areas.
- Be disposed of every 3 months, even if not full.

Sharps containers **MUST NEVER**:

- Be used for any purpose other than the safe disposal of sharps.
- Be filled above the fill line.

Waste bags – Swan neck technique

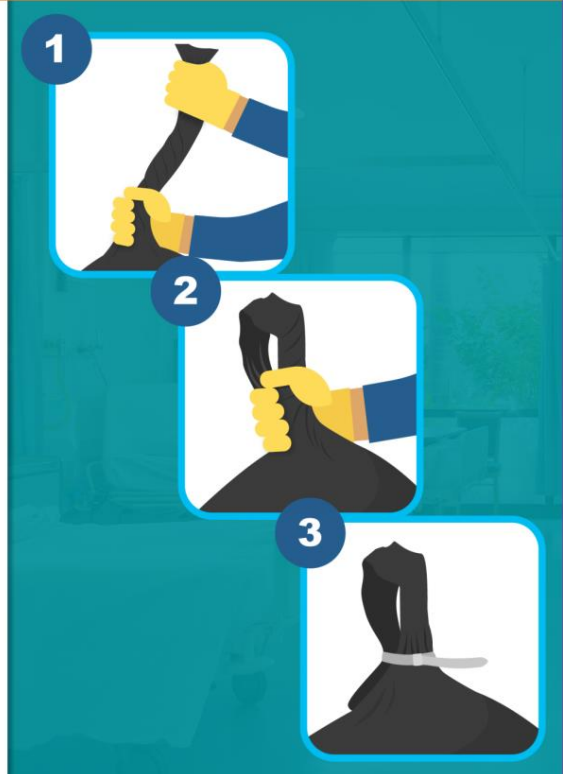


You might have heard people talking about tying waste bags using a **swan neck technique** before uplift. But have you ever thought about **why** we use this?



Select **all correct options**, then select **SUBMIT**.

- It makes bags easier to carry.
- It helps prevent liquids leaking out.
- Legislation requires it to be done.



< PREV SUBMIT

Please try to answer the question above and then check the answer and the feedback on the following page.



Waste bags – Swan neck technique



You might have heard people talking about tying waste bags using a **swan neck technique** before uplift. But have you ever thought about **why** we use this?



Select **all correct options**, then select **SUBMIT**.

- It makes bags easier to carry.
- It helps prevent liquids leaking out.
- Legislation requires it to be done.

That's correct.

It's good practice to use a swan neck tie as it provides a **tight seal** to prevent liquids from leaking out into the environment and onto those handling waste.

A swan neck tie makes bags **easier to carry**. Don't fill bags more than $\frac{3}{4}$ full so it's possible to do a swan neck tie!

While using a swan neck tie is good practice, it's not required by legislation.



Download this [job aid](#) to see how to do a swan neck tie.



Swan Neck Tie

How to complete a swan neck tie:

1. Hold the neck of the bag and twist until tight.
2. Fold the neck of the bag over on itself to form a swan neck.
3. Place a ratchet type healthcare waste identification tag (or equivalent) around the folded neck. Tighten this until a sturdy seal is formed.



Labelling waste bags and containers

You have a duty of care to **label waste** to ensure that it **can be traced back** to where it came from if there are any incidents before final disposal.

Waste receptacles from all waste streams **except domestic waste** must be labelled at the point of origin. Containers may need to be labelled when brought into use **and** on disposal.

Do you know what information is needed on labels? Or what labelling systems are often used?



Select each box to learn more.



Information needed on labels

- Care area name
- Ward or department
- Date waste was discarded



Tip: Use a permanent marker when writing labels.



Common labelling systems

- Pre-printed labels
- Ratchet type healthcare waste identification tag
- Adhesive tape



Tip: Fold adhesive tape back on itself to make it easier to write on.

Handling waste challenge

Steve is a dental nurse. He has to bring a bag of waste to the storage area for uplift. Do you know which of these practices would help him **safely handle** the waste bag?



Sort these practices into **good practice** and **poor practice** groups. Then select **SUBMIT**.

Hold the bag away from your body.

Use suitable PPE.

Hold the bag close to your body.

Handle the bag with bare hands.

Hold the bag underneath.

Hold the bag by the neck.

Handling Waste

Good practice

Poor practice

Drop zone

Drop zone

Please fill in the boxes with the correct items and then check the answer and the feedback on the following page.

Handling waste challenge

Steve is a dental nurse. He has to bring a bag of waste to the storage area for uplift. Do you know which of these practices would help him **safely handle** the waste bag?



Sort these practices into **good practice** and **poor practice** groups. Then select **SUBMIT**.

Handling Waste

Good practice

Hold the bag away from your body.

Use suitable PPE.

Hold the bag by the neck.

Drop zone

Poor practice

Hold the bag close to your body.

Handle the bag with bare hands.

Hold the bag underneath.

Drop zone

< PREV SUBMIT

Correct

That's correct.

Steve should hold the bag **away from his body**. This ensures his clothing doesn't become **contaminated**. It also protects him from exposure to any misplaced **sharps** that might be in the bag.

Steve should **NOT** hold the bag underneath as this exposes him to **leakages** or injury from misplaced **sharps**. Always **hold bags by the neck**.

He should wear **suitable PPE** such as **disposable gloves and an apron** to prevent contamination of his hands and clothing, especially if blood or body fluids are present.

Steve should **never** touch waste bags with his bare hands – this could expose him to blood or body fluids.

Continue >

> Topic 2:

Making Waste Safe for Disposal

How to store waste safely at the point of care

- ✓ Any waste not disposed of in the home setting should be stored in a **clearly signposted designated safe area** before uplift.
- ✓ This area must be secure against **unauthorised access** by people or animals to prevent injuries or other risks.
- ✓ It must be **large enough** to ensure the different waste streams are kept separate to avoid contamination.
- ✓ Waste **should not be left in corridors** to ensure people in care or members of the public don't come into contact with it.

When you're ready, go to the next topic to learn about managing challenges and reporting issues.



< PREV NEXT >

Notes for Topic 2: Making waste safe for disposal



Topic 3: Managing challenges and reporting issues

You will encounter different waste challenges no matter what setting you work in. So now you will explore:

- some common challenges and how you might overcome them
- how and when to report issues.

You will be asked to identify solutions to challenges in some short activities.



Remember, you can use the **Menu** to jump to any screen or to check where you are in this topic.

< PREV NEXT >

Challenge 1 – managing a burst bag



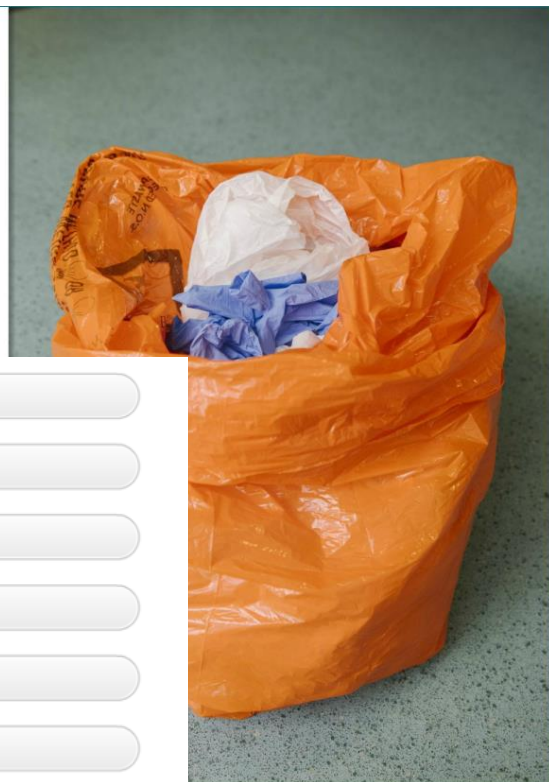
Robert is a cleaner. He was carrying a waste bag to storage for uplift. But the bag was too full and burst in the corridor.

Do you know **what** Robert needs to do and **when** to safely manage this burst bag?



Drag and drop these actions into the order in which Robert should do them, then select **SUBMIT**.

1. Cordon off the area.
2. Get a replacement bag.
3. Carefully gather up the bag contents.
4. Re-bag all of the waste.
5. Carry out the swan neck tie.
6. Re-label the waste if necessary.
7. Take the waste to the storage area.



< PREV SUBMIT

Please try to answer the question above and then check the answer and the feedback on the following page. You can match the items with numbers or letters.

> Topic 3: Managing challenges and reporting issues**Challenge 1 – managing a burst bag**

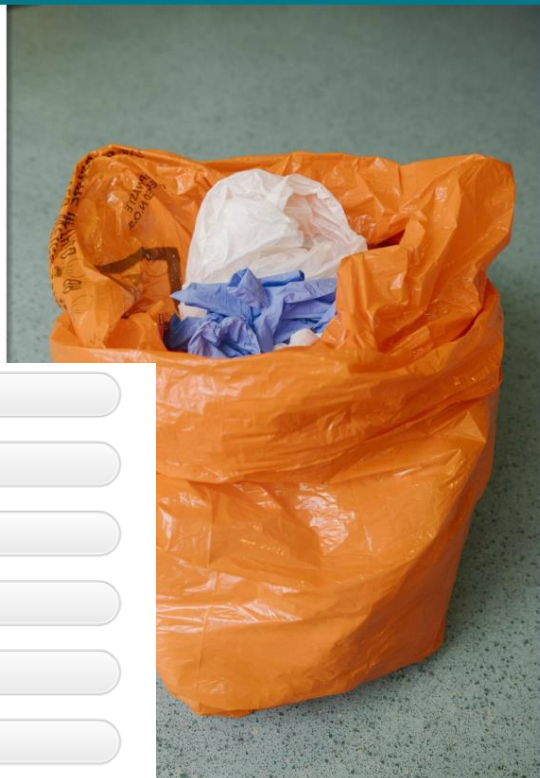
Robert is a cleaner. He was carrying a waste bag to storage for uplift. But the bag was too full and burst in the corridor.

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Drag and drop these actions into the order in which Robert should do them, then select **SUBMIT**.

1. Cordon off the area.
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3. Carefully gather up the bag contents.
4. Re-bag all of the waste.
5. Carry out the swan neck tie.
6. Re-label the waste if necessary.
7. Take the waste to the storage area.



< PREV SUBMIT

 **Correct**

That's correct.

1. First Robert cordons off the area so that others don't **touch** the spilled waste.
2. He then gets a replacement bag.
3. Next he carefully gathers up the contents as per his local policy so he **does not touch the contents** with his hands.
4. He puts all the waste **including the burst bag** in the replacement bag.
5. He then uses a swan neck tie to seal the bag.
6. He labels the replacement bag as the label on the burst bag is not usable.
7. And then he takes the waste bag to the storage area.

Robert can then return to the cordoned off area to clean up the surface if required before removing the cordon.

Continue >

> Topic 3:

Managing challenges and reporting issues

Challenge 2 – broken macerator



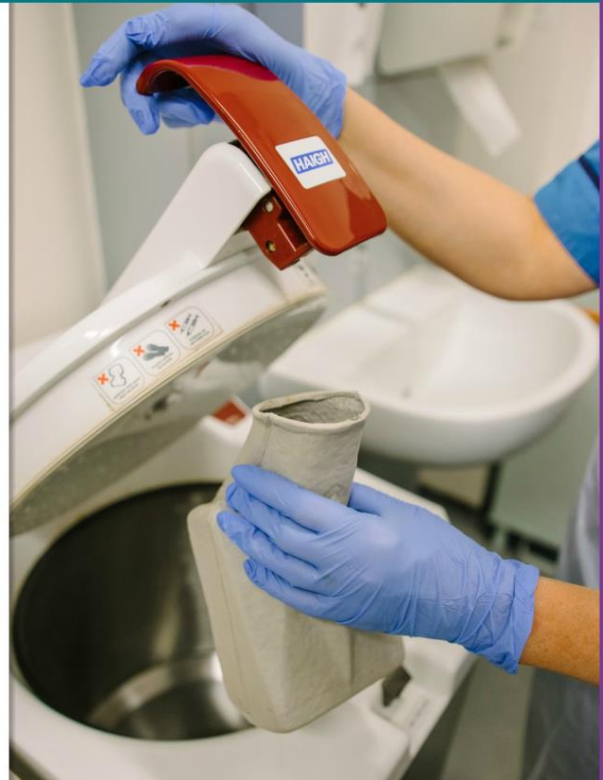
Lisa needs to dispose of a disposable bedpan shell containing urine. But her colleague tells her the macerator (a machine used to dispose of human waste products) is broken and will not be fixed for a few hours.

What would you think is the **best** thing that Lisa should do to make sure that the urine is disposed of safely and quickly?



Select **an option**, then select **SUBMIT**.

- Add a gelling agent or compound to the urine to solidify it and then put the shell into an orange stream rigid container.
- Empty the urine into the patient's toilet and put the shell into the orange waste stream.
- Store the bedpan shell on a bench until the macerator is fixed in a few hours.



< PREV SUBMIT

Please try to answer the question above and then check the answer and the feedback on the following page.

> Topic 3: Managing challenges and reporting issues

Challenge 2 – broken macerator



Lisa needs to dispose of a disposable bedpan shell containing urine. But her colleague tells her the macerator (a machine used to dispose of human waste products) is broken and will not be fixed for a few hours.

What would you think is the **best** thing that Lisa should do to make sure that the urine is disposed of safely and quickly?



Select **an option**, then select **SUBMIT**.

- Add a gelling agent or compound to the urine to solidify it and then put the shell into an orange stream rigid container.
- Empty the urine into the patient's toilet and put the shell into the orange waste stream.
- Store the bedpan shell on a bench until the macerator is fixed in a few hours.



Correct

That's correct.

The **best** thing that Lisa can do is to add a gelling agent or compound to the urine. This will **stabilise** the fluid so it can't spill. Then the bedpan shell can be placed into a **rigid** leak-proof orange waste stream container.

Lisa should **not** store the bedpan shell on a bench until the macerator is fixed as it could **spill** or be **knocked** over. Other bedpan shells might also **accumulate**, putting staff at risk.

If Lisa doesn't have a gelling agent she can pour the urine down the toilet, but this is not the best option.

Continue >

< PREV SUBMIT

> Topic 3: Managing challenges and reporting issues

Challenge 3 – overflowing sharps container



Joanne discovers a small sharps container with needles protruding from the opening.

This puts Joanne and others at risk of a sharps injury. What is the **best** thing that she can do?



Select **an option**, then select **SUBMIT**.

- Tip some of the sharps into an empty container.
- Pick out some sharps by hand and put them in an empty container.
- Put the overflowing small sharps container into a bigger, empty sharps container.



Please try to answer the question above and then check the answer and the feedback on the following page.

> Topic 3: Managing challenges and reporting issues



Challenge 3 – overflowing sharps container



Joanne discovers a small sharps container with needles protruding from the opening.

This puts Joanne and others at risk of a sharps injury. What is the **best** thing that she can do?



Select an **option**, then select **SUBMIT**.

- Tip some of the sharps into an empty container.
- Pick out some sharps by hand and put them in an empty container.
- Put the overflowing small sharps container into a bigger, empty sharps container.

That's correct.

The best thing for Joanne to do is **carefully** place the small overflowing sharps container into a bigger, empty container. She should then **seal and label** it to safely contain the contents.

If the biggest sharps container available is too full, she could **carefully tip** some of the sharps into another empty container. She should be careful, as this increases the risk of a sharps injury.

Joanne should **never** pick out sharps by **hand** as this increases the chance of a **sharps** injury.

Continue >

< PREV SUBMIT

> Topic 3: Managing challenges and reporting issues

Why reporting issues matters

It is your responsibility to raise concerns about any waste management issues you spot in your setting.

If you **see any problems** or hear of any near misses, you must **raise your concerns** with someone who can help you.

Then **lessons can be learned** and **improvements** to practice can be made.



Select **NEXT** to see a list of issues that you can report to make improvements where you work.



< PREV NEXT >

> Topic 3: Managing challenges and reporting issues

Issues you must report

You don't report issues and near misses to get other staff into trouble. Instead, you are helping to make the workplace safer for staff, people we care for and visitors. You may also improve the environment and reduce unnecessary waste treatment costs.

Here are some examples of issues you should report:

- Overfilled waste receptacles
- Unlabelled waste receptacles
- Waste spillages
- Insufficient uplifts of waste
- Use of wrong waste streams
- Waste not being segregated properly
- Any near misses.



Speak to the person in charge or a senior colleague.



Sharp disposed of incorrectly!
This issue must be reported.

Notes for Topic 3: Managing challenges and reporting issues

> Topic 3: Managing challenges and reporting issues

Summary

Now that you've completed this module you will be able to safely manage waste and confidently raise any concerns.

Take a moment to review the key points of this module:

- Separate waste into the correct waste streams.
- Make sure that waste is clearly labelled where required.
- Correctly and safely handle all types of waste.
- Report any areas of concern for improvement.



Remember, you can use the Menu to revisit any screen in this module.



< PREV NEXT >

> Topic 3: Managing challenges and reporting issues

Next steps

Now you can put your learning into practice. Start with these examples:

1. Do a simple audit of waste in your area. Check if it is labelled.
2. Ask staff in your area how waste could be managed better and more cost effectively.
3. Choose some items of waste and ask staff which waste stream they would use to dispose of them.
4. Check if the correct waste receptacles are available in your area.
5. Check the policy for managing waste where you work.



< PREV NEXT >

> Topic 3: Managing challenges and reporting issues

Feedback and assessment

Before you start the assessment, we'd like to get your feedback this module.



Please complete the [Safe Disposal of Waste \(including sharps\) – Feedback Questionnaire](#).

After you've answered the questionnaire, you must complete the assessment.



Copyright



Alternative formats



Please close this browser window to exit the module and then open the assessment.

< PREV

Feedback questionnaire link:

<https://response.questback.com/nhseducationforscotland/sipcep11waste>

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Transcriptions of any videos within this resource are available on request.



Please close this browser window to exit the module and then open the assessment.

Printable learning resource – Completion Record

Learning outcomes:

- identify the correct categories of waste and use the right waste streams to safely dispose of waste at source
- handle, bag and tag waste correctly for disposal
- take appropriate action to safely manage waste management issues.

Anticipated learning time: 20 minutes

I confirm that I have completed the above module.

Learner name:

Learner role and location:

Learner signature



**Scottish Infection
Prevention and Control
Education Pathway**
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