



Waste Management Training

For Healthcare Staff

Health Care Waste Colour Coding

Health care waste **must** be properly segregated before being sent for disposal or recycling.

Non-Anatomical	Autoclave ➡ Landfill
Sharps	
Anatomical	Incinerate
Cytotoxic	
Pharmaceutical	
Recycling	Recycle
Confidential	
Garbage	Landfill/ Incinerate

Non-Anatomical Waste (autoclave)

Any items saturated with, dripping with, or containing blood or body fluids containing blood



- ☐ Reusable container
- ☐ Requires yellow liner

Sharps Waste (autoclave)

Items capable of cutting or puncturing the skin and that have come into contact with blood, body fluids or microorganisms



- ☐ Should never be lined
- ☐ One time use container



Garbage Items Containing PPI (autoclave)

Garbage items containing Personal Patient Information which can identify a patient

- ☐ Remove PPI when possible
- ☐ If PPI cannot be removed dispose of item as non-anatomical biomedical waste



Confidential paper



Confidential mixed media



Biomedical waste – non-anatomical (yellow liner)
(not sharps container)



Items With Biohazard Symbols (autoclave)

Do Not throw empty, broken, or unused items containing a Biohazard symbol into the garbage or recycling.



Garbage



Recycling



**Biomedical waste – non-anatomical (yellow liner)
(not sharps container)**



Anatomical Waste (incineration)

✓ Human and animal tissue

✓ Organs

✓ Body Parts



✓ Includes – excess tissue from surgical procedures, and bone.

✗ Hair, teeth and nails

- ☐ Does not require a liner, - best practice is no liner
- ☐ Red liner may be used for spill/smell prevention
- ☐ One time use container

Cytotoxic Waste (incineration)

Waste that has come into contact with Cytotoxic Agents



Cytotoxic Sharps Containers
(should never be lined)

- ☐ Does not require liner (may be used for spill/smell prevention)
- ☐ If liner used (red only)
- ☐ One time use red container - must contain universal Cytotoxic “C”
- ☐ Unit staff must seal prior to pick up for disposal

Pharmaceutical Waste (incineration)

Pharmacy currently uses this pail as per their current Pharmaceutical Policy

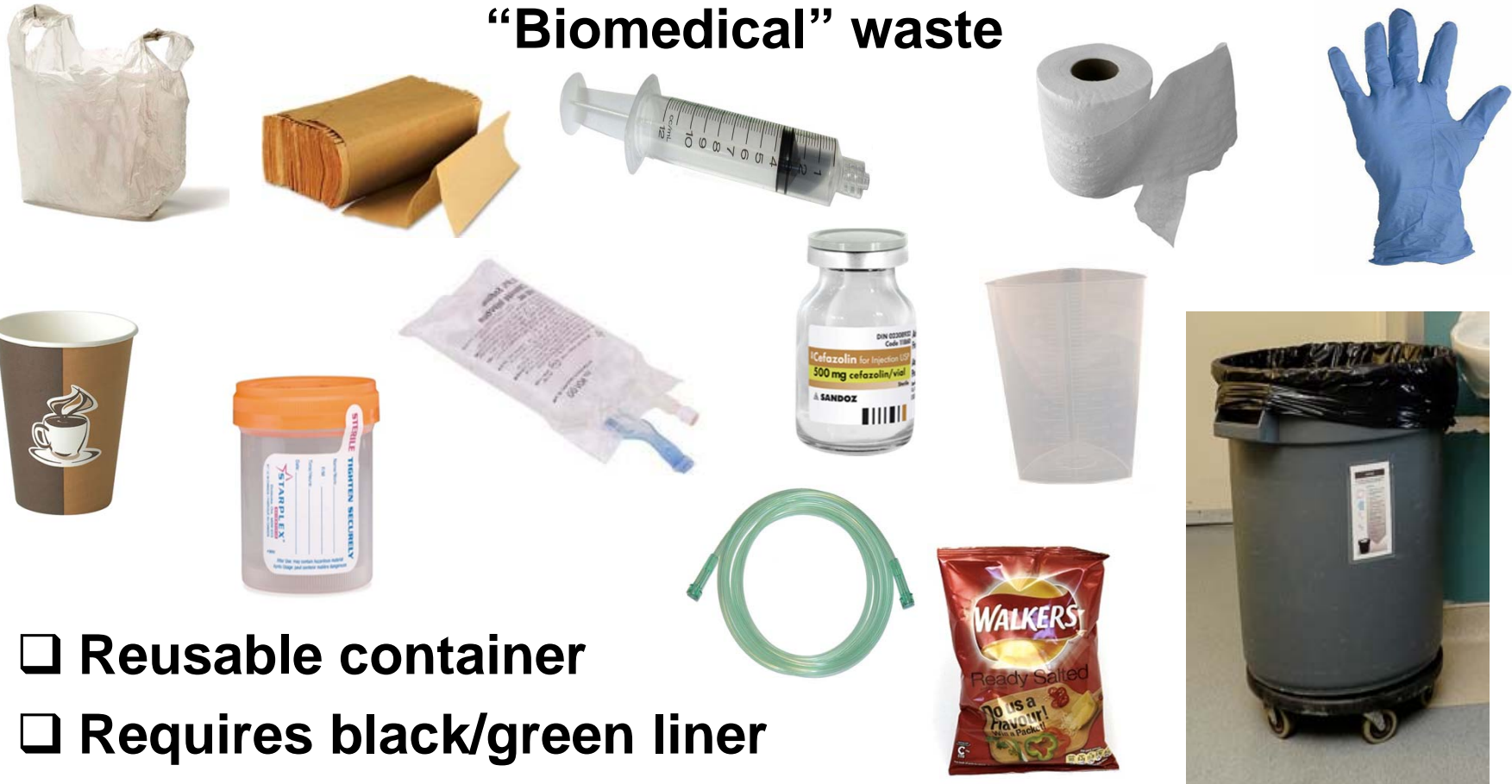
Unused or partially used drugs and medicines that are expired, contaminated, stored improperly or no longer required

- ☐ Should **never** be lined
- ☐ One time use container
- ☐ Unit staff must seal prior to pick up for disposal



Garbage Waste (landfill/incinerate)

Items that are not “Recyclable” and that are not
“Biomedical” waste



- ☐ Reusable container
- ☐ Requires black/green liner

Glass Only Waste (landfill/incinerate)

Glass only

 **Empty and intact**



 **Containing blood or pharmaceuticals**

 **Broken**

 **Extremely fragile**

☐ A non-disposable rigid container  or disposable cardboard box 

☐ Double lined with black or dark green liners 

☐ Dispose as garbage waste

Health Care Recycling

- Recycling in health care facilities is **different** from in a home or office.
- Health care facilities generate biomedical waste, so the recyclables pose a higher risk to recycling vendor staff that **sort items by hand**.
- Due to the risks associated with health care recycling, our vendor will not accept any items they **perceive as potentially harmful** to their staff.



Health Care Recycling

- Our vendor **does not accept** the following items for recycling, under any circumstances:

- × Biomedical Waste and Sharps
- × Medical Vials
- × Diapers (Soiled or Unused)
- × IV Bags
- × Urinals/Graduated Cylinders
- × Gloves
- × Syringes without needles
- × Items with Biohazard Symbols
- × Specimen Containers
- × Glass (apart from Food/Beverage)
- × Tubing
- × Plastic Bags
- × Plastic containers that have held corrosive materials

Biomedical Waste and Sharps	Medicine Vials
	
Diapers	IV Bags
	
Urinals/Graduated Cylinders	Gloves
	
Syringes without needles	Items with Biohazard Symbols
	
Specimen Containers	Glass (apart from Food/Beverage)
	
Tubing	Plastic Bags/Wraps
	
Plastic containers that have held corrosive materials	
	

Health Care Recycling

Contamination happens!

- Needles, full blood bags, and suction containers with body fluid have been sent to our recycling vendor in the past

Impacts?

- Contamination Protocols have been set up with our recycling vendor(s) to put in place specific hospital recycling receiving, handling and processing procedures
- In the event of contamination, the recycling vendor may:-
 - Stop recycling from the hospital/site (temporary)
 - Stop recycling from the hospital/site (permanent if recurring)
 - Stop recycling from all hospitals



Mixed Container Recycling



☐ Recycling must be collected in blue slim jims or desk side bins.

☐ Clear liners are used to visually check recycling contents.



Mixed Paper Recycling



☐ Recycling must be collected in blue slim jims or desk side bins.

☐ Clear liners are used to visually check recycling contents.



Refundable Beverage Containers Recycling



- ❑ Recycling must be collected in blue slim jims or desk side bins.
- ❑ Clear liners are used to visually check recycling contents.



Actions To Reduce Contamination

- ☐ **Always pair biomedical and recycling containers beside a garbage container when space permits**
(Exception: sharps containers)
- ☐ **Never place biomedical containers of any type directly above or beside recycling containers. If this is not possible**
 - ☐ Place a garbage container in between biomedical and recycling containers
 - ☐ Place recycling containers at least a foot away from biomedical containers
- ☐ **Never place recycling in high contamination risk areas**
(i.e., ED Trauma rooms)
This will improve segregation and prevent contamination



For More Information

Recycling and Waste Segregation Guide:

<https://bcgreencare.ca/resource/rrp-recycling-and-waste-segregation-guide>

Recycling Posters: <https://bcgreencare.ca/resource/rrp-recycling-posters>

Biomedical Waste Segregation Presentation and Signage:

<https://bcgreencare.ca/resource/biomedical-waste-signage>