

Clinical Waste Policy

CM09

Date Written	
Author(s)	
Version	
Date Signed Off	
Reviewed by	

Date: []

Review Data

Initial Production

Name	Role/Department	RACI	Date

R = Responsible for writing the policy; **A** = Accountable; **C** = Consulted; **I** = Informed

Change History

Version	Date	Details of Change	Author

Emergency Contact Details

Name	Email	Mobile

CQC Fundamental Standards

Regulation Number	Regulation Details
Regulation 12: Safe care and treatment	Care and treatment must be provided in a safe way for service users including assessing the risk of, and preventing, detecting and controlling the spread of, infections.
Regulation 15: Premises and equipment	Domestic, clinical and hazardous waste and materials must be managed in line with current legislation and guidance.

Key Lines of Enquiry

KLOE	How this applies to Clinical Waste
Safe	Ensuring that the risk of contamination is minimised promotes the overall safety of the service.

Related Documents

This policy should be read in conjunction with our:

- HS12 - Hand Washing Policy
- HS01 - Health and Safety Policy
- CM24 - Infection Control Policy
- CM25 - Medication Administration Policy

Policy Statement

Careville Ltd recognises the importance of robust Clinical Waste procedures, to reduce the risk of spreading infection. All staff working with service users are at risk of infection or of spreading infection, especially if their role brings them into contact with blood or bodily fluids like urine, faeces, vomit, or sputum. Such substances may well contain pathogens which can be spread if staff do not take adequate precautions.



Key Question: What is classed as Clinical Waste?

Clinical waste is defined in the Controlled Waste Regulations 1992. It refers to any waste that consists wholly or partly of: Human or animal tissue, blood or bodily fluids. This Includes:

- Human tissue
- Body fluids and waste
- Disposable gloves and aprons
- Soiled dressings and other contaminated waste
- Incontinence pads.

The aim of a safe removal of clinical waste is to ensure that all clinical waste materials are removed from their point of origin at regular intervals and transported securely to an appropriate point of disposal by incineration. The **Environmental Protection Act 1990** makes it the responsibility of the employer to ensure the safe disposal of clinical waste from their premises. Failure to abide by the act can lead to prosecution.

Legislation

Careville Ltd adheres to the following infection control legislation.

1. **The Health and Safety at Work, etc Act 1974 and the Public Health Infectious Diseases Regulations 1988** which place a duty on Careville Ltd to prevent the spread of infection.
2. **Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR 2013)** which places a duty on Careville Ltd to report outbreaks of certain diseases as well as accidents such as needle-stick accidents.
3. **The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH)** which places a duty on Careville Ltd to ensure that potentially infectious materials are identified as hazards and dealt with accordingly.
4. The Environmental Protection Act

How to Dispose of Clinical Waste

All clinical waste should be disposed of in sealed yellow plastic sacks.

1. Non-clinical waste can be safely disposed of in normal black plastic bags.
2. On no account should clinical waste be disposed of within standard domestic waste sacks.
3. Careville Ltd believes that yellow clinical waste bags are best used in pedal type bins to prevent unnecessary hand contact and provides such bins in all appropriate areas.
4. Sacks should never be filled more than three-quarters full and should be removed and sealed by staff wearing non-sterile gloves.
5. Sealed sacks should be handled by the tied neck only and should be handled with care. On no account should sacks be thrown or dropped.
6. Each sealed sack should be clearly labelled with the client's details.
7. Sealed and labelled sacks should be collected by an authorised collector only and while awaiting collection, full bags should be stored safely and securely away from service users, visitors, the general public, animals and pests.
8. All waste should be disposed of in a timely manner.

Disposing of Sharps

Sharps (used needles and broken glass) should be disposed of in sealed purpose-built sharps containers according to our sharps policy and procedure and collected by authorised sharps collectors. If this is relevant to a service user, details will be included in their care plan.

On no account should sharps be disposed of within standard clinical waste or within standard domestic waste.

Monitoring and Review

The Managing Director, will check this policy is working properly and they will review it at least once a year. We will make improvements to the policy wherever we can. Employees are invited to suggest any ways the policy can be improved.



Key Points to Take Away

- Clinical waste refers to any waste that consists wholly or partly of: Human or animal tissue, blood or bodily fluids.
- All clinical waste should be disposed of in sealed yellow plastic sacks.
- Non-clinical waste can be safely disposed of in normal black plastic bags.
- Sharps (used needles and broken glass) should be disposed of in sealed purpose-built sharps containers.

After reading this Policy, you should be able to:

- Understand what constitutes clinical waste
- Understand how to safely dispose of clinical waste
- Understand how to dispose of sharps

If you have not achieved any of these points, please ask your Line Manager or trainer for further help.

Policy Review

A Director will review this policy at least once a year to make any updates needed.

Authorisation and Signature

This Policy is the authorised version agreed by the Directors of Careville Ltd. All employees are expected to follow this policy and failure to do so could result in disciplinary action.

Director's Signature

Director