

HEALTHCARE WASTE CLASSIFICATION



REGULAR WASTE

Clear or Black Bags

Includes:

- ▶ IV bags and tubing
- ▶ Empty medication vials or containers
- ▶ Trash / wrappers
- ▶ Dressings
- ▶ Chux / underpads
- ▶ Empty foley bags and other drainage bags
- ▶ Disposable patient items
- ▶ Sanitary napkins
- ▶ Gloves



BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE

Red Bags, Red Containers, or Bags / Containers with Biohazard Symbols

Includes:

- ▶ Blood and all OIM (Other Infectious Materials)
- ▶ Blood tubing / bags / hemovacs / pleuravacs
- ▶ Soaked / dripping bloody dressings
- ▶ Contaminated waste from isolation patients
- ▶ Suction canisters or liners with bloody fluid or OIM



SHARPS WASTE

Red Sharps Containers, marked with Biohazard Symbol

Includes:

- ▶ All sharps (except those contaminated with chemo)
- ▶ All empty syringes with attached needles, empty tubexes, empty carpuments
- ▶ Trocars, introducers, guide wires, sharps from procedures, specimen devices in endoscopy, etc.
- ▶ **Examples:** Needles, broken glass vials, blades, scalpels, razors, pins, clips, etc.



PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE

Blue Containers, often with Locking Mechanism

Includes:

- ▶ All syringes, tubexes, carpuments with residual (pourable) medication
- ▶ IV bags and tubing with residual medication
- ▶ Partially used / residual prescription or over-the-counter medication
- ▶ **Examples:** Vials, tablets, capsules, powders, eyedrops, etc.

UNOPENED / UNUSED OR EXPIRED MEDICATIONS:
CONTACT MEDPRO



HAZARDOUS PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE

Return to Pharmacy; Black Containers

Includes:

- ▶ Hazardous R.C.R.A** Pharmaceuticals: Contact MedPro
- ▶ **Examples:** Inhalers with residual (if empty - regular trash) unused nicotine gum or patches, epinephrine (sales not included), physostigmine, silvadenec, etc.

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