

**Policy Title:**

**Waste Management Policy 2022-2023**

**1 Rationale:**

Harmful waste is defined as materials capable of causing harm (disease or injury) to human or environment if in appropriately disposed.

In the past few years the government and the public concern in the UAE has been increasing over the handling and disposal of health care waste.

Therefore all medical waste will be treated in accordance with local laws concerning protection and development of the Environment and UAE Federal Law No. (21) Of 2005 concerning management of medical waste.

**2 Aims:**

To ensure compliance with Dubai Health Authority and the federal legislations for medical waste management. Also to give clear direction about the segregation, storage handling, transportation and disposal of medical waste in order to avoid any hazards to the Dubai British Foundation health personnel or environment.

**3 Definitions**

**Regulated Medical Waste:**

Liquid or semi-liquid blood or other potentially infectious materials, contaminated items that would release blood or other potentially infectious material in a liquid or semi- liquid state if compressed, items that with dried blood or other potentially infectious material and are capable of releasing these material during handling.

**Sharps:**

Includes all sharps used in the clinic .This includes hypodermic needles; syringes; scalpel blades; needle with attached tubing; broken or un broken glass ware ,disposable dressing instruments.

**Group B Medical Waste:**

Sharps, usually syringes and needles, medical equipment vessels, broken glass and all other sharp equipment, tools and materials.

**General Waste:**

Non Hazardous Waste; Similar to Domestic waste.

**Pharmaceutical Waste:**

Pharmaceutical that are expired or no longer used or needed, items contaminated by or containing pharmaceutical bottles, boxes.

Pool chemical

**Heavy metals:**

Batteries, broken thermometer, blood pressure gauges, etc.

**Pool chemicals:**

Chemicals which are used to maintain Chlorine and PH in the swimming pool such as Sodium bisulphate, sodium meta bisulphate, soda ash, calcium hydrochlorite

#### 4 Policy Statement:

There will be proper segregation of regulated and non-regulated waste. All regulated waste will be discarded in the appropriate containers.

The following system of colour coded bags and containers must be used for safe disposal of medical waste.

##### **Group "A": Regular Medical waste (Contaminated Waste):**

Such as: Dressings, bandages, gloves, surgical waste, sponges etc.

These types of waste will be disposed of in a heavy duty red polythene bag with thickness of 100 Micron leak proof and labeled with a warning label (medical waste Group A) and will be disposed through approved supplier.

**NOTE: Don't fill these bags more than 65% of its capacity.**

##### **Group "B": Sharps:**

Such as needles, Syringes, Scalpel, Razors, Blades, Lancets, Small Cannulas, Broken Glass. Suture needle Vials etc.

These types of waste will be disposed of in a rigid thick leak proof, puncture resistant and heavy yellow container boxes and labeled with a warning label: **Sharps** and strong enough for handling, storage and transportation .

NOTE: Don't fill this container more than 75% of its capacity.

**Group "C": Laboratory:** As of now there is no generation of Laboratory waste. Once the experiment has started we will provide with a separate wooden box to store the laboratory waste and will be disposed through approved supplier.

**Group "D": Pharmacy:** All unused, partially used or expired pharmaceutical products must be placed in to **yellow medium duty polyethylene bag** with thickness of 50 Micron and labeled with a warning label: (Pharmacy waste group "D").

**Poisonous Waste:** Not applicable

##### **Pool Chemicals:**

Chemicals which are used to maintain Chlorine and PH in the swimming pool such as Sodium bisulphate, sodium meta bisulphate, soda ash, calcium hydrochlorite are pool chemicals. Handling and disposal of all these chemicals will be the responsibility of supplier who has handling pool maintenance.

##### **DOMESTIC WASTE:**

- All DBSJP domestic waste, which is collected from clinic room/toilets/ waiting area in white or black colour bags.
- **Note that all glass and aerosol cans** to be disposed in plastic bins that are clearly labeled and as Glass Container. Meanwhile broken glass and vials should be disposed of in to sharp container box.
- Label all glass containers "Nonhazardous Waste- Glass only".
- Do not Place Hazardous waste or medical waste in to glass container. Contaminated glass that is hazardous must be disposed as hazardous waste.
- Do not place miscellaneous waste (Plastic/paper trash) in to the glass container.
- Wear cut resistant gloves when handling the broken glass container.
- None of the medical waste should be disposed of in public/municipality drums.
- The area of collection must be tightly closed under the control of a qualified person.
- All bags /Containers of medical waste must be collected and stored at a suitable area provided for this purpose easy to identify and reach for collection purpose.
- Separation of medical waste groups should be performed by a safe mechanical method.
- All plastic polyethylene bags used for all groups must be leak-proof and puncture resistant.
- Also it is very important to keep all bags tightly sealed before moving it from the source point, Bags should be fastened securely when three-quarter filled.

- All staff who handle, load, unload, process or treat medical waste should be empty adequate measures to protect themselves, public and environment from exposure to the contaminated waste.
- Transportation of medical waste from the center to site of disposal plant should be transported in a special vehicle assigned for this purpose, which must be air- conditioned
- Infectious waste should be disposed within 48 hours.

Personnel dealing with medical waste MUST BE:

- a) Thoroughly trained.
- b) Using protective cloth and safety protective items.
- c) Washing their hands after the procedure.
- d) Vaccinated against Hepatitis B and Tetanus.

Waste container cleaning:

- Biohazard waste containers will be cleaned with an approved disinfectant on a routine basis and as needed.
- The non-contaminated waste baskets will be cleaned with an approved disinfectant solution weekly or as per needed.

#### **4 Roles and Responsibilities:**

It is the responsibility of each staff member medical and non-medical to comply with this policy.

Cleaners:

1. Will ensure all waste containers are emptied daily and whenever necessary before becoming full.
2. Will ensure all trash receptacles have water proof liners (yellow bags for contaminated waste).
3. Will ensure sufficient receptacles are maintained in appropriate area.

The Facilities Manager will maintain an annual contract with licensed medical waste treatment company for the collection, transportation, treatment and disposal of waste.

#### **5 Applicable to:**

All staff

#### **6 Related Documents**

Clinic policies and procedures

#### **7 Implementation Date:** August 2020

**Review Date:** August 2023