

Clinical Waste Storage and Disposal

Storage of Clinical Waste

Before collection and disposal of clinical waste, clinical waste needs to be double bagged, removed from active practice areas and stored in a secure covered receptacle such as a rubbish bin in a storage area.

The outer bag for clinical waste will be yellow to identify the contents for appropriate disposal.

Bags need to be securely stored, preferably inside a locked yellow bin with a biohazard symbol and/or in a restricted area. Unauthorised staff should not be able to access the storage area.

The storage area should be clean, and separate from clean stores.

Disposal of Clinical Waste

Clinical waste disposal requires the use of licensed contractors and high temperature incineration or special burial.

If the waste is disposed of by a contractor offsite, you will require:

- a certificate of disposal
- a certificate or agreement stating that the contractor disposes of the waste in accordance with the Environment Protection Authority guidelines

Reference: RACGP *Infection Control Standards for Office Based Practices* (4th Edition)