

HOW TO PACKAGE YOUR MEDICAL WASTE

Follow these simple steps to prepare our supplied medical-waste box before pickup.
Keep it safe, compliant, and tidy.



PACKING STEPS

DO THESE IN ORDER

- 1 No loose sharps go in the red bag. Place all needles, blades, and sharps in an approved sharps container.
- 2 All loose sharps must go in an approved sharps container. Seal sharps containers before placing them in the red biohazard bag.
- 3 Separate medications as required; Ex. do not mix chemo/cytotoxic waste with regular regulated waste.
- 4 Use the supplied red biohazard bag; tie or twist closed.
- 5 Close and tape the box across the top seam and along edges so it cannot open in transit.
- 6 Do not exceed 45 lbs. If heavier, split into two boxes.
- 7 Do not let it overflow. The box must close without bulging.
- 8 Store boxes upright in a secure staff-only area until pickup.



QUICK CHECKLIST

- No loose sharps (all in sharps containers)
- Sharps containers sealed
- Red bag tied or twisted closed
- Box closed and taped
- < 45 lbs max
- Box not overflowing

DISPOSAL BINS

WHAT GOES WHERE



BIOHAZARD WASTE

Anything contaminated with potentially infectious materials such as blood, sharps, and more. Also referred to as biomedical, red bag, or infectious waste.



PATHOLOGICAL WASTE

Tissues, organs, fluids, and body parts from a surgical-like procedure.



SHARPS WASTE

Any device with the capability of piercing the skin, such as scalpels, needles, wires, and more.



TRACE CHEMOTHERAPY WASTE

Anything contaminated with a trace amount of a chemotherapeutic agent such as gloves, disposable gowns, etc.



NON-HAZARDOUS PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE

An unused over the counter drug that is not hazardous as defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

DISPOSAL BINS GUIDE



RED BIOHAZARD BIN

What to Put Inside:

Soft, non-sharp items saturated or caked with blood or other potentially infectious materials.

Examples & Notes:

Gloves, gauze, bandages, blood-soaked dressings, disposable gowns, drapes, suction canisters (empty of liquids).
No loose sharps.



SHARPS CONTAINER

What to Put Inside:

All items that can puncture or cut, whether used or unused.

Examples & Notes:

Needles, syringes with needles attached, scalpel blades, lancets, broken glass contaminated with blood. Must be FDA-approved, rigid, leak-proof, and sealed before going into the red bag/box.



PHARMACEUTICAL/ NON-HAZARDOUS MED BIN (WHITE)

What to Put Inside:

Unused or expired non-controlled, non-hazardous medications.

Examples & Notes:

Expired tablets, capsules, ointments, saline flushes (without needles). Keep packaging on if possible. No chemo/cytotoxic drugs.



PATHOLOGICAL WASTE BIN

What to Put Inside:

Human tissues, organs, and body parts requiring incineration.

Examples & Notes:

Surgical specimens, placentas, animal carcasses used in research. Double-bag if leaking.



TRACE CHEMOTHERAPY WASTE (YELLOW)

What to Put Inside:

Trace chemo waste and anything contaminated with chemotherapeutic agents.

Examples & Notes:

Empty chemo IV bags, tubing, gowns, gloves used during chemo prep or administration.
Never mix with red-bag waste.

KEY REMINDERS

- + Always tie or twist the red bag closed before placing inside the shipping box.
- + Label specialty bins (chemo, RCRA hazardous, etc.) as required by your state and the U.S. DOT.
- + Never exceed weight limits or allow bins to overflow.