

Parish Dental Practice Policy: Clinical Waste Disposal

Policy Statement:

Parish Dental is committed to responsible and compliant disposal of clinical waste, adhering to environmental and public health regulations. This policy outlines the procedures for the segregation, handling, and disposal of clinical waste to minimize the risk of contamination and ensure the safety of staff, patients, and the public.

Objective:

To ensure the safe, efficient, and legal disposal of clinical waste generated by the practice.

Scope:

This policy applies to all types of clinical waste generated within Parish Dental, including but not limited to sharps, contaminated materials, and other hazardous waste. It is applicable to all staff members.

Definitions:

- **Clinical Waste:** Any waste that poses a threat of infection to humans, including items that are contaminated with bodily fluids, sharps, pharmaceutical products, and certain chemicals.

Procedures:

1. Segregation of Waste:

- Clearly label and use different containers for different types of waste (e.g., sharps in sharps bins, contaminated materials in biohazard bags).
- Never overfill waste containers and close them securely when full.

2. Handling and Storage:

- Handle clinical waste as little as possible and with appropriate protective equipment.
- Store waste in a secure, designated area away from public access and in compliance with health and safety standards.

3. Disposal:

- Use licensed waste carriers for the disposal of clinical waste.
- Ensure waste is transported safely and in accordance with legal requirements.

4. Documentation and Record Keeping:





- Keep accurate records of the waste produced, including the type, quantity, and disposal details.
- Maintain documentation for the transfer of waste to licensed carriers.

5. **Training:**

- Provide comprehensive training for all staff on clinical waste management procedures, including segregation, handling, and disposal.
- Regularly update training to reflect any changes in legislation or practice policy.

6. **Spill Management:**

- In case of spills of clinical waste, have a clear procedure for containment, cleaning, and disinfection.

7. **Compliance and Auditing:**

- Regularly review and audit waste management practices to ensure compliance with current regulations and best practices.

8. **Emergency Procedures:**

- Establish procedures for handling emergencies related to clinical waste, such as spillage of hazardous materials or discovery of improperly disposed waste.

Responsibility:

The practice manager is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of this policy. All staff members are responsible for adhering to the clinical waste disposal procedures.

Policy written by Dr Pavan Amar Singh Bhogal GDC: 273704

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Updated Yearly

