

Environmental Waste Management Group Webinar - 28 July - Responses to Questions

#	Question	Answer(s)
1	May we have this presentation after the session? also certificate of attendance?	Recording and slides will be available on the IOSH Events recordings page See Volunteer led webinars->Group webinars->Environmental Waste Management No CPD certificate is provided but you'll receive an email from IOSH Webinars confirming your attendance.
2	Is disinfection of bio contaminated plastics to allow for recycling an alternative to autoclave?	At the moment there is no such permitted processes.
3	It would be more helpful, If you can guide us on the country basis what are the Waste management approved Vendors or agents for waste collections.	I would not recommend a specific vendor, it is about the technologies vendors are using.
4	How can we check the specific waste management plans for various countries.	Each country will have different administration and infrastructure, there is a book "Technologies for the safe management of waste" if you'd like to introduce waste management in your country.
5	More of a comment - the waste colour coding is different in Scotland - there is no offensive waste category. Autoclave lab waste also goes into orange stream.	Yes, the presentation was focused mainly on England waste.
6	What are the hazard phrases for biological or laboratory wastes?	They vary depending on the properties, you would need to assess the SDS of the raw product and assess any mixtures using WM3. There is no SDS required for infectious waste so you would use the hazard property HP9, refer to Appendix C9 of WM3 for more detail.
7	Chemical lab gloves with minimal chemical contamination - hazardous waste or general waste? Or is recycling possible?	Would depend on the type and the quantity of contaminant, please consult with MW3: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/waste-classification-technical-guidance
8	Could the gloves be autoclaved before recycling if they come from a Cat 2 lab?	Yes, depending on the waste disinfection procedures identified in your risk assessment if autoclaving renders waste non-hazardous.
9	We use purple bins for all CMR contaminated sharps, is that correct? CMR- Carcinogenic, mutagenic, reprotoxic.	If purely chemical and no biological then these may be consigned as hazardous chemicals. In a hospital lab environment, purple is often used for convenience. There should be an accurate description on the HWCN regardless of the colour of the bin.
10	How about spray paint ?	Waste stream for spray paint should be identified by your estate department.
11	If there is a spill of Hazardous wastes from a Lab or a Medical waste and handling of wastes and chemicals were noticed, where do I get guideline for this and where do I report (as i am not from this industry).	Sorry, this is outside of the scope of this presentation and we cannot advise on this.
12	Asbestos waste and contaminated outer clothing is classed as Hazardous waste. Should it go in orange bags and clear labels?	I would expect red bags for asbestos waste as orange would have biohazardous symbol, and for asbestos waste to be marked as class 9 dangerous good.
13	I'm about to start recycling pipette tips, could I have a link to this glove recycling scheme please? Assuming it is safe to do so!	https://www.terracycle.com/en-GB/brigades/gloves
14	Can 10% acetone / 90% water mixture can be regularly poured down the drain?	Please consult https://www.water.org.uk/guidance/national-guidance-for-healthcare-waste-water-discharges/ Document or contact your sewage taker

15	Should a griff bin have a bag inside in case the outer bag is ever damaged or lid comes off?	You should not have a bag inside, the lids should not come off, use UN designed packages which are tested specifically with a drop test and others to be a reliable package.
16	When do you need a license for pouring items down the drain? Is there a list of what is permitted?	This should be on your water permit.
17	The other publication is the EPR5.07 which is useful for clinical waste - published by the environment agency	Yes, here is the up-to-date guidance https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/environment-and-business/appropriate-measures-for-healthcare-waste/user_uploads/response-20190715.pdf which applied from July 2020 for new facilities and will apply to all by July 2022
18	Are disposable polystyrene serological pipettes considered as sharps?	They are not sharp, a cardboard bin should be used for disposal
19	Covid 19 how should we classifies face mask waste?	If face masks were not used as a PPE to control exposure to research risk, then it is general waste.
20	Hi Anne thank you for a great talk, nothing will change with REACH regs to look out for (due to Brexit)?	Some things will be changed.
21	How can we ask Dr Anne a question in the future, or how does she gets feed backs from professional colleagues. Can she share her email address?	Please contact Anne on anne@issafe.co.uk