

MANAGEMENT OF COVID-19 WASTE: HOMES, WORKPLACES, INSTITUTIONS OTHER THAN HEALTH CARE

The Corona Virus Disease-2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has been associated with an increase in the generation of health care risk waste (HCRW). Poor HCRW management practices can have an adverse impact on the environment and human health. It is therefore important that best practices for safely managing COVID-19 HCRW be followed to eliminate potential risks to the general population.

REDUCE & AVOID waste generation where possible by:

- using washable cloth masks,
- avoid the unnecessary use of disposable gloves

WASTE FROM WORKPLACES & OTHER INSTITUTIONS

INFECTIOUS WASTE



Classified as infectious waste:

- Soiled disposable masks, Gloves, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and paper towels generated during COVID-19 screening and testing
- Infectious waste containers to be marked "infectious waste" and have bio-hazard symbol
- $\frac{3}{4}$ full infectious waste containers to be sealed and then stored in a central waste storage area prior to collection
- The contracted service provider should provide a separate waste manifest (record) indicating volumes of infectious waste collected.
- Infectious waste containers to be collected, transported, treated and disposed of by the contracted service provider at a licensed health care risk waste treatment and disposal facility.

GENERAL WASTE



Classified as general waste:

- Food scraps/leftovers, cardboard boxes, paper, plastics, glass, cans, tissues and other waste not generated during COVID-19 testing
- General waste to be stored in municipal refuse bins or heavy duty black refuse plastic bags
- General waste to be collected by the municipal refuse collection team on relevant waste collection days.
- The collected general waste to be disposed of at an approved landfill site.
- There is no treatment for general waste.

WASTE FROM PATIENTS/CONTACTS IN HOME SELF ISOLATION

- All waste (e.g. food scraps/leftovers, disposable food drinks packaging, paper, plastics, cans, tissues) shall be classified as GENERAL WASTE).
- General waste to be stored in municipal refuse bins with close-fitting lid or in sealed heavy duty black refuse plastic bags.
- General waste to be collected by the municipal refuse collection team on relevant waste collection days.
- The collected general waste to be disposed of at an approved landfill site.
- There is no treatment for general waste.

REMEMBER



When handling infectious and sharps waste
wear boots, long-sleeved gown, heavy duty gloves, mask and goggles or face shield



Always wash your hands after handling all types of waste



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