

Section 23

- 1) Generators must handle and store medical waste in a safe manner that poses no threat to human health or to the environment and are under a duty to ensure that medical waste is removed from their premises, transported and disposed of in accordance with this By-law.
- 2) Without limiting the generality of the duty in subsection (1), generators must comply with the following requirements:
 - a) separate medical waste from other waste at the point at which it is generated;
 - b) store medical waste in leak-proof, sealable containers and ensure that containers which are used for the storage of sharps and other clinical items which can cause cuts or punctures or injections are, in addition, rigid and puncture resistant;
 - c) label each medical waste container indelibly and in large, legible lettering with-
 - (i) the name and address of the generator;
 - (ii) the words "Danger: Medical Waste" , "Gevaar: Mediese Afval" and "Ingozi:Inkunkuma Yezamayeza"; and the international bio-hazard logo; and
 - (iii) the date on which the medical waste container is removed from the generator's premises;
 - d) prevent public access to medical waste containers which are in use;
 - e) store filled medical waste containers in controlled, secure areas which are reserved for the storage of medical waste;
 - f) make arrangements for the removal of medical waste from their premises and for the transportation of medical waste to a disposal site by a person who transports medical waste in terms of this By-law and who is registered as a transporter as contemplated in section 26 of this By-law;
 - g) make arrangements for the disposal of medical waste by a person permitted to dispose of medical waste in terms of this By-law.
- 3) Generators may apply in writing to the Council for permission to handle, store and otherwise deal with their medical waste in a manner which does not comply with the requirements set out in subsection (2).
- 4) The Council may in writing grant the permission referred to in subsection (3); provided that it may grant such permission subject to conditions.
- 5) Generators may transport and dispose of medical waste, provided that they do so in terms of this By-law.
- 6) Generators must -
 - a) maintain an up-to-date written record of medical waste removed from their premises in the format as prescribed from time to time by the Council.
 - b) acquire from the disposer of the medical waste written notification that the medical waste has been disposed of and, on receiving such notification, indicate in their written records that the medical waste has been thus disposed of;
 - c) keep the written record referred to in (a) and the notification referred to in (b) for a period of one year after the removal from their premises of the medical waste.

medical waste includes –

- 1) *any waste, whether infected or not, resulting from a medical, surgical, veterinary or laboratory procedure on humans or animals, such as blood, body fluids, tissue, organs, body parts, extracted teeth, corpses (excluding corpses intended for burial in terms of the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 51 of 1992);*
- 2) *used medical equipment and other medical material which is capable or is reasonably likely to be capable of causing or spreading disease or causing or spreading infection, such as used surgical dressings, swabs, blood bags, laboratory waste, blood collection tubes, colostomy- and catheter-bags; gloves, drip bags, administration lines and tongue depressers;*
- 3) *contaminated and uncontaminated sharps, including clinical items which can cause a cut or puncture or injection, such as needles, syringes, blades and microscope slides;*
- 4) *pharmaceutical products which have become outdated or contaminated or have been stored improperly or are no longer required, such as human and animal vaccines, medicines and drugs; genotoxic chemical waste and radio isotopes from experimental or diagnostic work or any other source.*