

## Clinical Waste Storage and Disposal

### Storage of Clinical Waste

Before collection and disposal of clinical waste, clinical waste needs to be double bagged, removed from active practice areas and stored in a secure covered receptacle such as a rubbish bin in a storage area.

The outer bag for clinical waste will be yellow to identify the contents for appropriate disposal.

Bags need to be securely stored, preferably inside a locked yellow bin with a biohazard symbol and/or in a restricted area. Unauthorised staff should not be able to access the storage area.

The storage area should be clean, and separate from clean stores.

### Disposal of Clinical Waste

Clinical waste disposal requires the use of licensed contractors and high temperature incineration or special burial.

If the waste is disposed of by a contractor offsite, you will require:

- a certificate of disposal
- a certificate or agreement stating that the contractor disposes of the waste in accordance with the Environment Protection Authority guidelines

Reference: RACGP *Infection Control Standards for Office Based Practices* (4<sup>th</sup> Edition)