

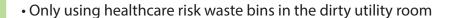
Examples of good practices

in Irish hospitals to reduce risk waste

& increase recycling...







- Removing healthcare risk waste bins from:
- The clean utility room
- Public wards/ public areas
- Recycling bins throughout wards.





- General waste & recycling bins in certain isolation rooms (for certain contact spread non-droplet/airborne) as well as risk waste bin.
- Keep material stocks low in isolation rooms (to avoid being thrown out unused later).



Throughout the Hospital



- Reclassifying certain wastes as not being healthcare risk waste e.g. uncontaminated: gowns, table covers, face masks, etc.
- Using smaller sized risk waste bins, where appropriate.
- Recycling bins within the theatres.
- Recycling bins throughout waiting rooms and other public areas.





What is NOT healthcare risk waste

Note: Uncontaminated* is any item that is not contaminated with blood or certain bodily fluids (like pus, sputum or peritoneal fluid).

Bodily fluids like faeces, urine, & breast milk are not considered risk waste.



Here is a list of items that are NOT healthcare risk waste if UNCONTAMINATED*



General

Packaging
Paper
Newspaper
Magazines
Used paper towels



Patient care items

- Gloves, aprons, gowns, masks, disposable table/bed covers;
- Empty IV bags (ex tips), plastic bottles, ventilator & oxygen tubing, nebuliser sets;
- Stoma bags, urinary drainage bags & tubing, urinary catheters, enteral feeding bags/sets, etc.



Incontinence wear & nappies

Note: other than those from a patient with known/suspected enteric pathogens, e.g. salmonella, clostridium difficile



§ Please Note

Waste from all sources, other than isolation rooms or other infectious sources. Check your own hospital policy for isolation rooms - some hospitals do not classify all waste from all isolation rooms as healthcare risk waste, while others do.

Based on National Guidelines

