

## The Do's and Don'ts for waste in camps / tented villages

„DO”	„DO NOT“	Remarks
Collect the Solid Waste / put the Waste in bins	Throw it on ground or in water	Normal waste is also named domestic waste or household waste
Separate / segregate <b>plastic bottles</b> if there is a market for recycling	Mix all kinds of Solid Waste together	Health care waste like syringes, needles, blades, infusion sets dirty dressings has also to be segregated
Empty the bins on a regular schedule.	Let the waste bins be flooded with waste	
Inform, train and communicate with your staff at all levels about waste procedures	Let anyone work without proper training for their task	
Put the waste in a container/drum/bin at designated areas where the waste can be collected with access for transport vehicle	Let the waste stay inside the camp	
Request assistance from the municipality or organize your own collection, transport and disposal system	Wait for better times... or treat your waste on site with open burning	Your own initiative is crucial – you cannot take for granted that a normal waste management will work in a relief situation. <b>Open burning of waste generates harmful &amp; toxic gasses and residuals!</b>
Inform, train and communicate with your staff at all levels about waste procedures	Let anyone work without proper training for their task	
Do your own assessment of the external collection/management of Solid Waste	Hand over responsibility to other organisation without further feedback and follow-up	
Control and upgrade your waste management as more resources become available	Stay too long with disposal methods that were appropriate for the relief phase	After the relief phase, Sanitary Landfills for Domestic Waste and incinerators for Infectious Health Care Waste would be the appropriate disposal methods

## More Information

### What is Domestic Waste?

Domestic Waste – or Household Waste is any solid waste that is the result from everyday life waste like discarded food, packaging, worn out clothes, newspapers, diapers, etc.

### Where do I find more information on the management of Solid Waste?

Here are some useful links:

[http://w3.whosea.org/LinkFiles/List\\_of\\_Guidelines\\_for\\_Health\\_Emergency\\_Solid\\_waste\\_management\\_in\\_emergencies.pdf](http://w3.whosea.org/LinkFiles/List_of_Guidelines_for_Health_Emergency_Solid_waste_management_in_emergencies.pdf)

### What is Infectious Health Care Waste?

*Infectious sharps*: syringe or other needles, blades, infusion sets, broken glass or other items that can cause direct injury

*Infectious non-sharps* include materials that have been in contact with human blood, or its derivatives, bandages, swabs or items soaked with blood, isolation wastes from highly infectious patients (including food residues), used and obsolete vaccine vials, bedding and other contaminated materials infected with human pathogens. Human excreta from patients are also included in this category.

### What is not Infectious Health Care Waste?

Materials that have not been in contact with patients such as paper and plastic packaging, metal, glass or other wastes which are similar to household wastes.

### Where do I find more information on the management of Health Care Waste?

Here are some useful links:

Minimum Requirements for Health Care Waste Management in affected areas. Available on: <http://earthquake05.un.org.pk/uploaddocuments/511Min%20Requi%20Health%20Care%20Waste.pdf>

WHO – Management of solid health-care waste at primary health-care centres: A decision-making guide. Available on:

[http://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/medicalwaste/hcwdmguide/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/medicalwaste/hcwdmguide/en/index.html)

The Secretariat of the Basel Convention - Technical Guidelines on the Environmentally Sound Management of Biomedical and Healthcare Wastes Available on:  
<http://www.healthcarewaste.org/en/documents.html?id=196>

WHO - Assessment of small-scale incinerators for healthcare waste. Available on:  
[http://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/medicalwaste/smallincinerators/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/medicalwaste/smallincinerators/en/index.html)

WHO - Guidelines for safe disposal of unwanted pharmaceuticals in and after emergencies. Available on:  
[http://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/medicalwaste/pharmaceuticals/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/medicalwaste/pharmaceuticals/en/index.html)

WHO - The Healthcare waste management rapid assessment tool  
[http://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/medicalwaste/hcwmtool/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/medicalwaste/hcwmtool/en/index.html)

The WHO Healthcare Waste Website provides other general information on handling of healthcare waste. Available on:  
<http://www.healthcarewaste.com>