




## Generic Risk Assessment

Activity		Reference		Version		Assessed By	Date Of Assessment
Clinical Waste on Units		QMRA-023		1		Roger Palmer	March 2023
Severity	5	5	10	15	20	25	<p><b>Likelihood</b></p> <p>Rating 1 = Very unlikely Rating 2 = Unlikely Rating 3 = Likely Rating 4 = Very Likely Rating 5 = Almost Certain</p> <p><b>Severity</b></p> <p>Rating 1 = No Injury Rating 2 = Minor Injury or Illness Rating 3 = 3 Day Injury or Illness Rating 4 = Major Injury or Illness Rating 5 = Fatality or life Changing Injury</p> <p><b>Risk = Likelihood x Severity</b></p> <p><b>Likelihood</b></p> <p> Acceptable     Further review     Unacceptable Risk</p>
	4	4	8	12	16	20	
	3	3	6	9	12	15	
	2	2	4	6	8	10	
	1	1	2	3	4	5	
	1	2	3	4	5		

Task	Potential hazard	Who can be harmed and how	Uncontrolled Risk			Controls	Residual Risk		
The removal of clinical waste hazardous or otherwise will be completed by an outside contractor and should be completed prior to the removal and redeployment of the unit. In the rare occasion that this has not been completed follow the below Risk Assessment when making the unit safe to transport.									
Moving a sealed sharps bin	Blood borne viruses	Operative. Contamination through open wounds and sores	2	4	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>If the bin is closed the chance of contamination is minimal.</li><li>Wear protective vinyl/nitril gloves.</li><li>Bin is ok to be moved.</li><li>Safely dispose of gloves and wash hands with antibacterial gel.</li></ul>	1	4	4

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Moving a sharps bin that is not sealed	Blood borne viruses. Puncture wounds	Operative. Contamination through open wounds and sores Needle stick injuries.	2	4	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided the needles are not above the fill line and no needles are protruding, while wearing vinyl/nitrile gloves you may close the bin and then move it.</li> <li>• Safely dispose of the gloves and wash your hands with antibacterial gel.</li> </ul> <p>If you suffer a needle stick injury.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage the wound to bleed, ideally by holding it under running water.</li> <li>• Wash the wound using running water and plenty of soap.</li> <li>• Do not scrub the wound while washing it.</li> <li>• Do not suck the wound.</li> <li>• Dry the wound and cover it with a waterproof plaster or dressing.</li> <li>• Seek urgent medical attention as you may need treatment to reduce the chance of getting an infection.</li> </ul>	1	4	4
Moving a sharps bin that is overflowing	Blood borne viruses. Puncture wounds	Operative Contamination through open wounds and sores Needle stick injuries.	3	4	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not attempt to seal the bin or move it.</li> <li>• Call your supervisor/manager on how to proceed.</li> </ul>	1	4	4

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Discovering sharps in the unit not in the sharps bin	Blood borne viruses. Puncture wounds	Operative Contamination through open wounds and sores Needle stick injuries.	3	4	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not attempt to clear up.</li> <li>Call your manager on how to proceed.</li> </ul> <p>If you suffer a needle stick injury.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage the wound to bleed, ideally by holding it under running water.</li> <li>Wash the wound using running water and plenty of soap.</li> <li>Do not scrub the wound while washing it.</li> <li>Do not suck the wound.</li> <li>Dry the wound and cover it with a waterproof plaster or dressing.</li> <li>Seek urgent medical attention as you made need treatment to reduce the chance of getting an infection.</li> </ul>	1	4	4
Clinical waste in a sealed bag	Blood borne viruses	Operative. Contamination through open wounds and sores	2	4	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the bag is sealed the chance of contamination is minimal.</li> <li>Wear protective vinyl/nitril gloves.</li> <li>The bag is ok to be moved.</li> <li>Carry bag by sealed area at the top.</li> <li>Safely dispose of gloves and wash hands with antibacterial gel.</li> </ul>	1	4	4
Clinical waste in an unsealed bag	Contamination	Operative. Contamination through open wounds and sores	2	4	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the bag is unsealed, do not attempt to seal it, contact your supervisor/manager on how to proceed.</li> </ul>	1	4	4

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Clinical waste found in unit not bagged	Contamination	Operative. Contamination through open wounds and sores	3	4	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If clinical waste is found in the unit not bagged up, do not attempt to clear it up. Contact your supervisor/manager on how to proceed.</li> </ul>	1	4	4
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