

## Infectious waste and sharps

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- Systems should be chosen according to national and local situation
- Nearly all mentioned treatment systems are suitable for infectious waste except encapsulation (which can be used for sharps) and inertization
- Highly infectious waste (from laboratories) should be autoclaved first



# Pharmaceutical waste

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## Small amounts:

- Disperse in landfill sites
- Encapsulate
- Bury on site
- Discharge to sewer
- Incinerate

## Large amounts

- Incineration at high temperatures
- Encapsulation
- **LANDFILL IS NOT RECOMMENDED**



# Cytotoxic waste

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**NEVER LANDFILL or DISPOSE TO SEWER**

## **Disposal Options**

- Return to supplier
- Incinerate at high temperature
- Chemical degradation



# Chemical waste

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## Small amounts

- Disperse in landfill sites
- Encapsulate
- Bury on site
- Discharge to sewer
- Incinerate

## Large amounts

- Incineration for certain combustible wastes
- Return to original supplier
- May be exported to a site for proper treatment
- **LANDFILL IS NOT RECOMMENDED**



## Chemical waste - further recommendations

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- Different hazardous chemicals must be kept separate
- Hazardous chemicals should not be disposed of to the sewer
- Large amounts of disinfectants should not be encapsulated as they are corrosive and sometimes inflammable
- Large amounts of chemicals should not be buried



## **Wastes with high heavy metal content**

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### **Wastes containing mercury, cadmium etc.**

(e.g. thermometers, batteries)

- Should never be incinerated or burnt
- Should never be disposed of in municipal landfills
- Best solution: recovery in specialized cottage industry
- Export to countries with specialized facilities
- Encapsulation



## Pressurized gas containers

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### **MUST NEVER BE INCINERATED**

- Undamaged gas cylinders and cartridges should be returned to the manufacturer for reuse
- Damaged containers after being completely emptied can be crushed and disposed of to landfill
- Aerosol cans can be collected with household waste if not being incinerated



## **Radioactive waste**

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**Management and disposal requires a national strategy and infrastructure, including**

- Appropriate legislation
- A competent regulatory organization
- Radiation protection officer
- Trained personnel

**Safe handling and disposal of radioactive waste requires a rigorous and relatively complex management scheme**

