

Transportation and Disposal of Medication

If you are involved in transporting medication, you should follow the Standard operating Procedures and guidance within the relevant Medicines Management policy:

- Medicines Management – Administration and Management (For Registered Healthcare Professionals)
- Medicines Management: Policy for the Handling and Administration of Medicines in Adult, Residential, Day and Domiciliary Settings by Employees

You should ensure that your Car Insurance covers you for the transportation of medication as part of your role.

Medicines need to be disposed of correctly. Unwanted medicines made ready for administration to patients and partly used injection or infusions should be disposed of in a yellow-lidded sharps bin.

Medicines which have been refused or spat out should also be regarded as clinical waste and disposed of in the sharps bin or sluice. Medicines cannot be put in domestic waste for disposal.

All other unwanted / expired medicines, except Controlled Drugs, should be dealt with as defined in the Standard Operating Procedures for the unit and the organisation waste policy (where one exists) - i.e. disposed of in pharmaceutical waste bins (blue-lidded bins) or in yellow-lidded sharps bins. Medicines cannot be sent back to the supplying pharmacy for destruction.

For cytotoxic / cytostatic waste this must be put into purple-lidded waste containers (purple-lidded sharps bins if sharp waste). It is to be noted that drugs such as Prostag and Zoladex are classed as cytotoxic and therefore must be disposed of in purple-lidded bins.