## SAFE MANAGEMENT OF COVID-19 RELATED WASTE



## **COVID-19 RELATED WASTE**

Waste that is suspected or confirmed to contain corona virus in sufficient concentration or quantity to cause disease in susceptible hosts.

Waste generated from the activities in health care facilities, workplaces, households and public places must be handled in a safe manner to prevent and/ or reduce potential exposure to disease causing hazardous biological agents such as COVID-19 virus.

## **HEALTH CARE RISK WASTE (HCRW)**

This is waste which has the potential to cause injury or infection such as needles, pharmaceuticals, items contaminated with blood and body fluids, etc.



#### **HOW TO MANAGE HCRW**

- ♦ All who handle health care risk waste should wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Safely dispose the waste into designated health care risk waste containers at the point of generation.
- ♦ Containers should be filled to not more than ¾ as indicated by the fill line.
- ♦ Seal full containers and mark them "COVID-19".
- Store full containers separate from GW.
- Store full containers in an area that as a minimum is lockable, well ventilated and has access to water.
- Full containers should be collected by an authorised service provider.
- Health care risk waste must be treated at an appropriately licensed treatment facility.



**GENERAL WASTE (GW)** is waste that poses minimum risk to human health and the environment such as food packaging, printing paper, paper towels and tissues.

This includes masks and gloves from non-health care facilities or public places except where health screening measures are implemented.

#### **HOW TO MANAGE GENERAL WASTE**

- Waste including masks, gloves, tissues, paper towels shall be managed as general waste.
- ◆ Place general waste in black, beige or clear plastic bags.
- Seal full plastic bags and store them with other general waste.
- Full GW plastic bags shall be collected by the local municipality or appointed general waste service provider.

# Remember to wash your hands after handling waste.





COVID-19 Workplace Preparedness & Prevention HEALTHY, SAFE & SUSTAINABLE WORKPLACES Workplace Hotline: 0800 2121 75

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