

## Part B - Health Facility Briefing and Planning

### 670 WASTE MANAGEMENT UNIT

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#### INTRODUCTION

##### General

670 .2.00	A hospital must have a Waste Management Unit for storing waste and used linen. The Waste Management Unit shall have the following features: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Located close to all functional areas</li><li>- Accessible from within the unit and externally</li><li>- Fitted with a deadlock</li><li>- Located away from food and clean storage areas</li><li>- Not accessible to the public.</li></ul>
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#### PLANNING

##### Functional Areas

670 .3.00	The Waste Management Unit will include the following Functional Areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Enclosed dust free workstation with a workbench, telephone and computer outlet to undertake recording and reporting functions; it should have visual control of the waste handling facility</li><li>- General waste skip or compactor area with direct contractor access for removal; general waste may be compacted on site</li><li>- Provision for front load bins</li><li>- Clinical waste bin storage</li><li>- Paper and recyclable materials bin storage</li><li>- Clean bin storage area; a variety of bins need to be stored pending distribution to the hospital units</li><li>- Storage space for consumables such as plastic bin liners and cleaning materials; could be located adjacent to the Work Management Station.</li></ul>
670 .4.00	The following Functional Areas are optional requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- An area for bin receiving with room for pull tug and cart trolley access and bin sorting may be required.</li></ul>

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- A waste weighing and recording station, which includes a floor level digital weighbridge and bar code recorder, will be required if waste handling policy includes weighing and tracking.
- An upright freezer may be required to store tissue pending dispatch for incineration.

### 670 .5.00 BULK WASTE MOVEMENT

The waste handling area will be frequently serviced by site and contractor's vehicles removing waste in carts and front loading bulk bins. It is important that adequate traffic access is provided for delivery and removal of all wastes. The access roads need to be adequate and turning areas uncongested. Noise levels may be significant during waste collection periods.

- 670 .6.00 Bulk waste bin movement around the site and during the disposal process may require that the bins are accessed from a raised dock. A variable level platform may be considered as an option.

### 670 .7.00 CLINICAL WASTE

Contaminated waste bins should be located in strategic collection points for each clinical section. These collection points need to be easily accessible to the staff responsible for disposing of wastes, as well as to those servicing the facility in removing and replacing the bins.

- 670 .8.00 Contaminated waste bins should not be accessible to the public and should preferably be out of sight in a secure area.

- 670 .9.00 Separate colour-coded bins will be required for the disposal of sharps, human tissue, cytotoxic and radioactive materials. Receptacles, whether disposable or recyclable, are to comply with AS 4031 and AS 4261, and should be located in treatment areas. Wall mounting of the containers is recommended.

- 670 .10.00 Human tissue, cytotoxic and radioactive materials are only likely to occur in specific clinical units. Provision of receptacles and storage space for these materials will be required in the specific unit on an as-needed basis.

### Functional Relationships

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- 670 .11.00 Servicing of waste and linen storage areas should be undertaken via thoroughfares that avoid regular public, patients and staff facilities. Particular attention should be made to avoiding food handling and high profile public areas. A service lift devoted to materials movement within the hospital is highly recommended.

## DESIGN

### General

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- 670 .12.00 The Waste Management Unit should be designed to secure the material, reduce organic decomposition, contain odours and allow hygienic cleaning of storage areas and carts. Larger institutions may benefit from the installation of a mechanised bin washing facility.
- 670 .13.00 Liquid waste emanating from disinfection procedures may need to be stabilised before disposal in sewerage systems.

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### General

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- 670 .14.00 Access doors to bin storage areas need to be a minimum of 900 mm wide and require a closing and locking facility. Wall and floor surfaces need to be sealed to allow cleaning of spills. A graded floor with drainage should be provided. A handbasin should be located near the access door.

### Finishes

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- 670 .15.00 Walls and floors in areas used for bin storage should be sealed to allow easy cleaning.

### Infection Control

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- 670 .16.00 Hand-washing facilities should be located adjacent to the waste collection area where clinical waste is handled.

### Building Service Requirements

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- 670 .17.00 Building service requirements for the Waste Management Unit will include the following:
- The temperature with the waste handling area should be maintained at a temperature that helps control odours; ideally a negative pressure environment should be provided to contain the spread of odours.
  - The areas used to store waste materials need to be secure from vermin and rodent infestation.
  - Hot and cold water outlets with a hose spray are the minimum requirements to be provided for cleaning waste holding areas and bins as required
  - A high pressure wash down unit should be provided for the adequate cleaning of the area.
  - Drainage from this area may include disinfectants, therefore liquid wastes may require special treatment prior to discharge.
  - Walls and floors should be sealed to withstand the frequent wash downs and the floors graded to allow run off.

## COMPONENTS OF THE UNIT

### Introduction

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- 670 .18.00 The Waste Management Unit will consist of a combination of Standard Components and Non-Standard Components.

Standard Components must comply with details in Standard Components described in these Guidelines. Refer also to Standard Components Room Data Sheets.

### Standard Components

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- 670 .19.00 Provide the Standard Components as identified in the Schedule of Accommodation.

### Non-Standard Components

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- 670 .20.00 Provide the Non-Standard Components as identified in this section and in the Schedule of Accommodation, according to the Operational Policy and Functional Brief.

- 670 .21.00 BIN WASHING AREA

#### DESCRIPTION AND FUNCTION

The Bin Washing Area will provide an area and facilities for washing of bins as required. Bins may be cleaned off-site by external waste removal contractors.

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### Non-Standard Components

#### 670 .22.00 LOCATION AND RELATIONSHIPS

The Bin Washing Area should be located in the Waste Handling Unit with ready access to general and clinical waste holding areas.

#### 670 .23.00 CONSIDERATIONS

Hot and cold water outlets with a hose spray are the minimum requirements to be provided for cleaning bins as required. Reticulated steam, pressure cleaning systems and air blow drying facilities may also be considered.

## APPENDICES

### Waste Management Generic Schedule of Accommodation

#### 670 .24.00 Schedule of Accommodation for a Waste Management Unit suitable for a Level 4 Hospital of 120 Beds:

ROOM / SPACE	Standard Component			Level 4 Qty x m2			Remarks
BIN WASHING AREA				1 x 6 optional			May be omitted if washing done by external contractors off-site
CLEAN BIN HOLDING				1 x 8			
CLINICAL WASTE COLLECTION				1 x 20			
GENERAL WASTE COLLECTION				1 x 25			
PAPER & RECYCLABLE WASTE COLLECTION				1 x 10 optional			May be located in the General Waste area
CIRCULATION %				20			

#### 670 .25.00 SHARED AREAS

ROOM / SPACE	Standard Component			Level 4 Qty x m2			Remarks
OFFICE - WORKSTATION	yes			1 x 6			Waste Service personnel

### References and Further Reading

- 670 .26.00
- American Institute of Architects, Guidelines for Design & Construction of Hospital & Healthcare Facilities, 1997.
  - Health Department Western Australia, Private Hospital Guidelines, 1998.
  - Queensland Government, Private Health Facilities Building Code, 2000.

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### FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS DIAGRAM - WASTE MANAGEMENT UNIT

