



Peninsula Dental Social Enterprise (PDSE)

Disposal of amalgam waste

Version 5.0

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Approved by: The Board / Infection Control Committee

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Policy will be updated as required in response to a change in national policy or evidence-based guideline.

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The Dental Education Facility Protocol on the disposal of amalgam waste

1. Personal Protective Equipment Required

1.1 Full PPE is to be worn for these procedures

- Clinical clothing
- Plastic apron
- Eye protection
- Gloves
- Mask

2. Amalgam mixing areas

2.1 Equipment required:

- Metal tray covered with aluminium foil
- Amalgamator
- Dappens dishes
- Waste amalgam storage container
- Amalgam capsule storage container

3. Protocol

3.1 Clinical Bay

- The capsule is to be disposed of into the amalgam capsule storage Container.
- Waste amalgam is to be disposed of in the waste amalgam storage Container.
- Amalgam-contaminated dappens dishes and single use matrix bands used with Amalgam are to be disposed of in the amalgam capsule storage container.
- When the waste amalgam storage container or the amalgam capsule storage container is full, the nurse will dispose of it appropriately and provide a replacement.
- At the end of the day the dental nurse should check that the amalgam tray is free from any waste amalgam and should replace the aluminium

foil if necessary. The aluminium foil should be disposed of in the amalgam capsule storage container.

3.2 Disposal of the amalgam waste containers

- When the container is full, it is to be held for collection by the Specialist Waste carrier.
- The Specialist Waste carrier will collect their hazardous waste containers twice yearly and supply new ones.
- The carrier will supply a transfer note, a copy of which should be retained by PDSE for a period of 11 years.