



Peninsula Dental Social Enterprise (PDSE)

Extraction – Disposal of Extracted Teeth

Version 2.0

Date approved: August 2018

Approved by: The Board

Review due: August 2020

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

The Dental Education Facility Protocol **on the Disposal of Extracted Teeth**

Introduction

Extracted teeth are considered as hazardous waste and must be disposed of accordingly. Teeth with amalgam restorations present an additional problem, as they must not be incinerated. Patients who request to keep their teeth must be allowed to do so under the Human Tissue Act (2004).

Personal Protective Equipment Required

Full PPE is to be worn for these procedures

- Clinical clothing
- Plastic apron
- Eye protection
- Gloves

Protocol

Clinical Bay

- All teeth are disposed of in the tooth box.
- If a patient requests to keep their tooth, it should be cleaned under running water, wrapped in gauze and sealed in a plastic envelope. Patients should be offered the option of returning the tooth to PDSE for disposal.
- All teeth are to be disposed of in the container marked 'Tooth Box' (supplied by a specialist waste management company).
- When the Tooth Box is $\frac{3}{4}$ full it is to be sealed with heavy duty tape and placed in the bin marked 'Hazardous Waste for Collection' which is located in each site's designated area.
- The specialist waste management company will collect their hazardous waste containers quarterly and supply new containers.
- The specialist waste management company will supply transfer notes, a copy of which should be retained in the Waste Management File. These transfer notes should be retained for a period of 11 years.