

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) for Ebola or Marburg: Waste Management Part 1 - The Waste Management Process

Healthcare Settings with Limited to Intermediate Resources

Learning Objectives

After this presentation, participants will be able to

- Explain why waste management is important for healthcare facilities during an outbreak of Ebola or Marburg.
- Name at least 3 steps of the waste management process.
- Identify things to add or change in the waste management process at their own facilities.

Discuss

Imagine you visited a healthcare facility and saw this.

What feedback would you give the facility to help make waste management there safer?



What is waste management?

Waste Management Includes:

- sorting/segregating waste
- collecting waste
- transporting waste
- storing waste
- treating waste
- disposing of waste

Safe management of waste generated during patient care is the **responsibility of all staff.**

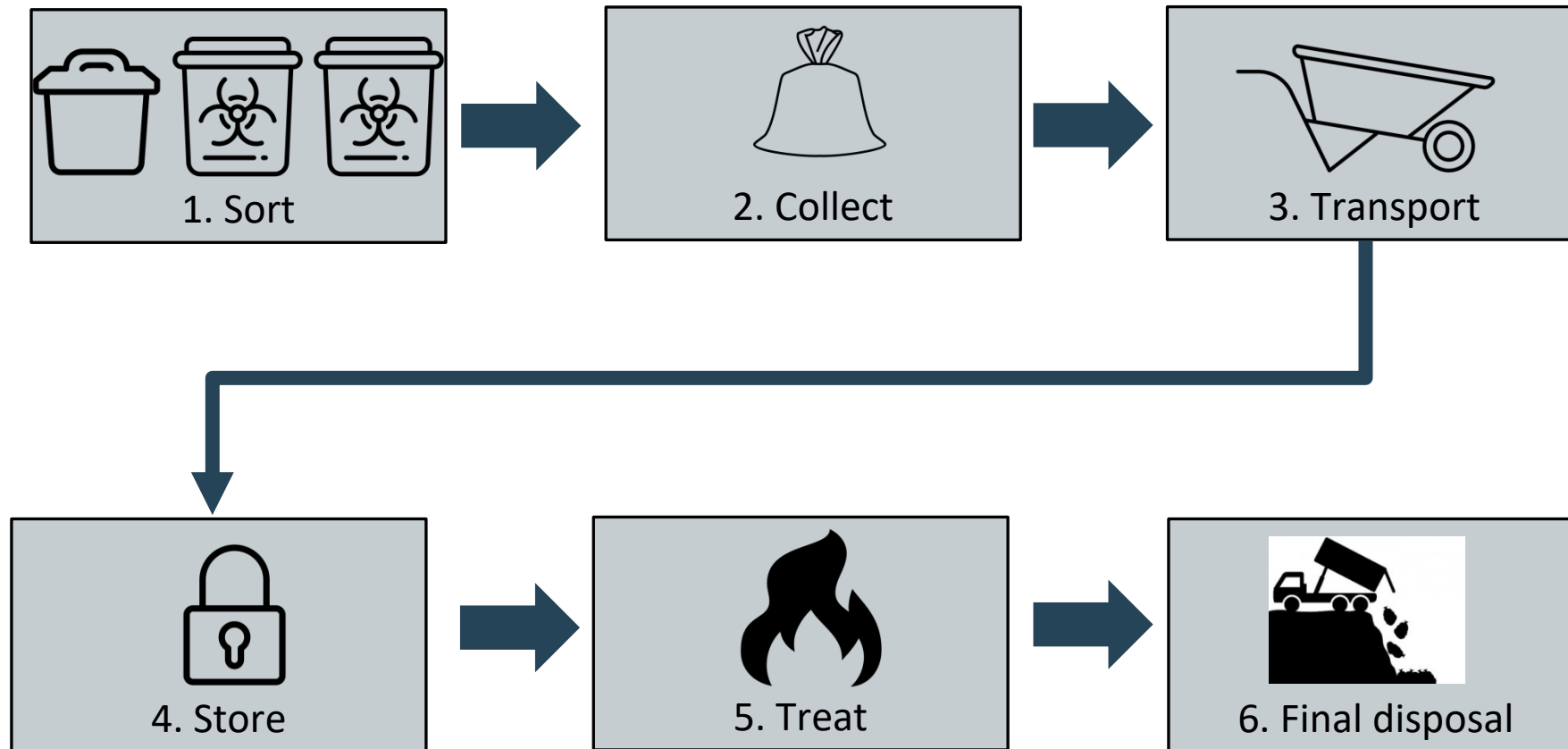
Why Waste Management?

- Healthcare facilities are **responsible for managing waste.**
- Inappropriate waste management **poses potential health risks** to you, your patients, and other staff in your facility, as well as to your community.



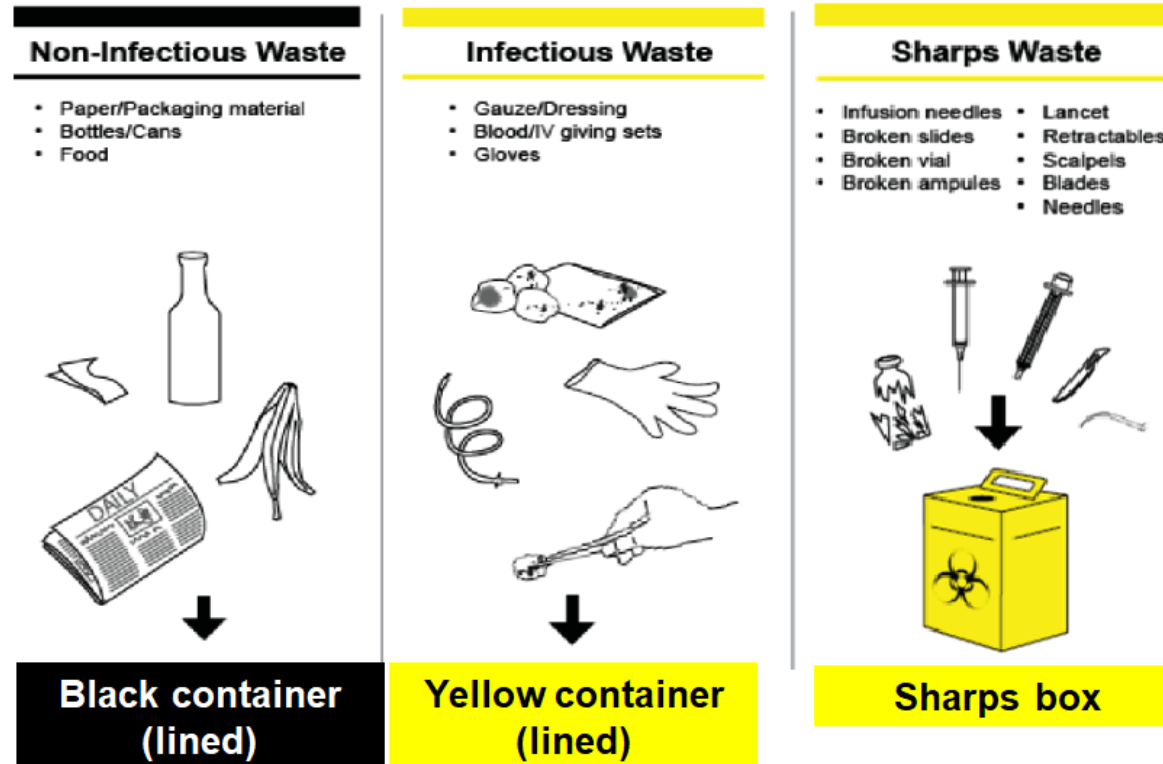
How to Manage Waste at Your Facility

Waste Management Process



Waste Segregation

3-bin system (most common)



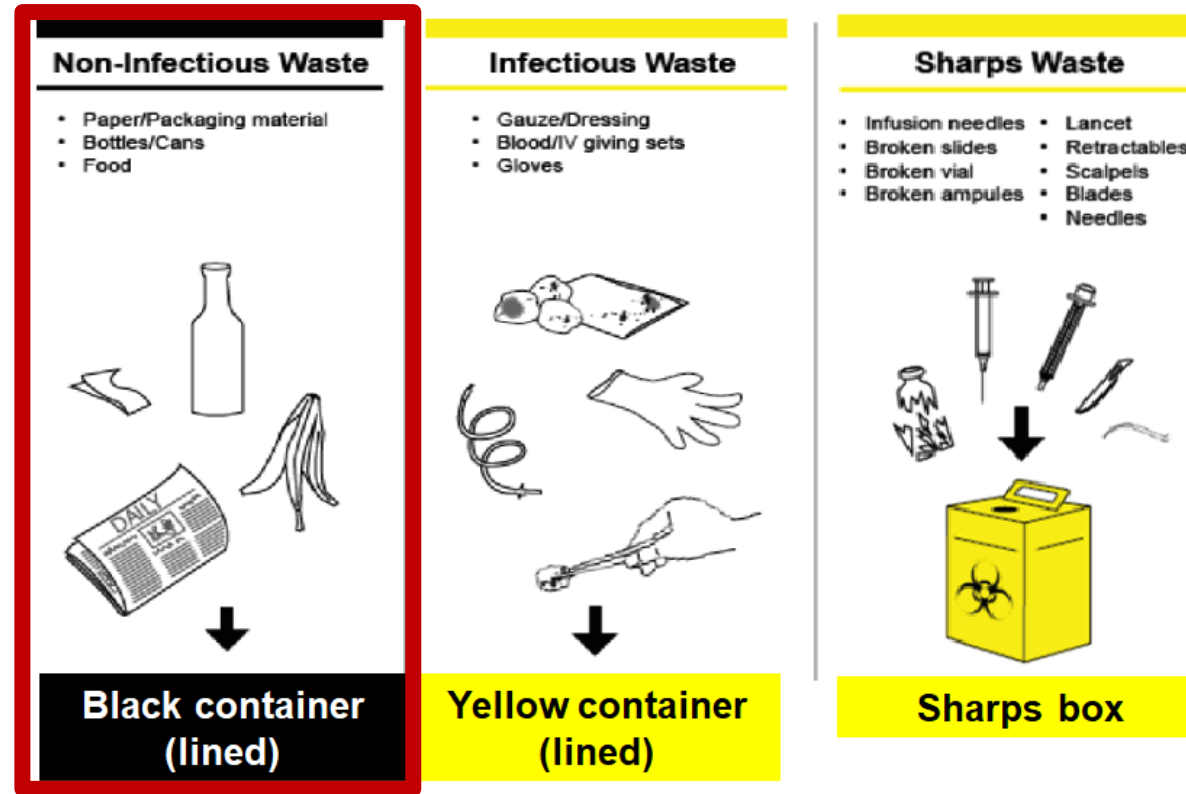
Other waste streams (less common)

Pathological waste	
Chemical and pharmaceutical waste	
Radioactive waste	

<https://www.washinhcf.org/resource/wash-fit-training-package/>

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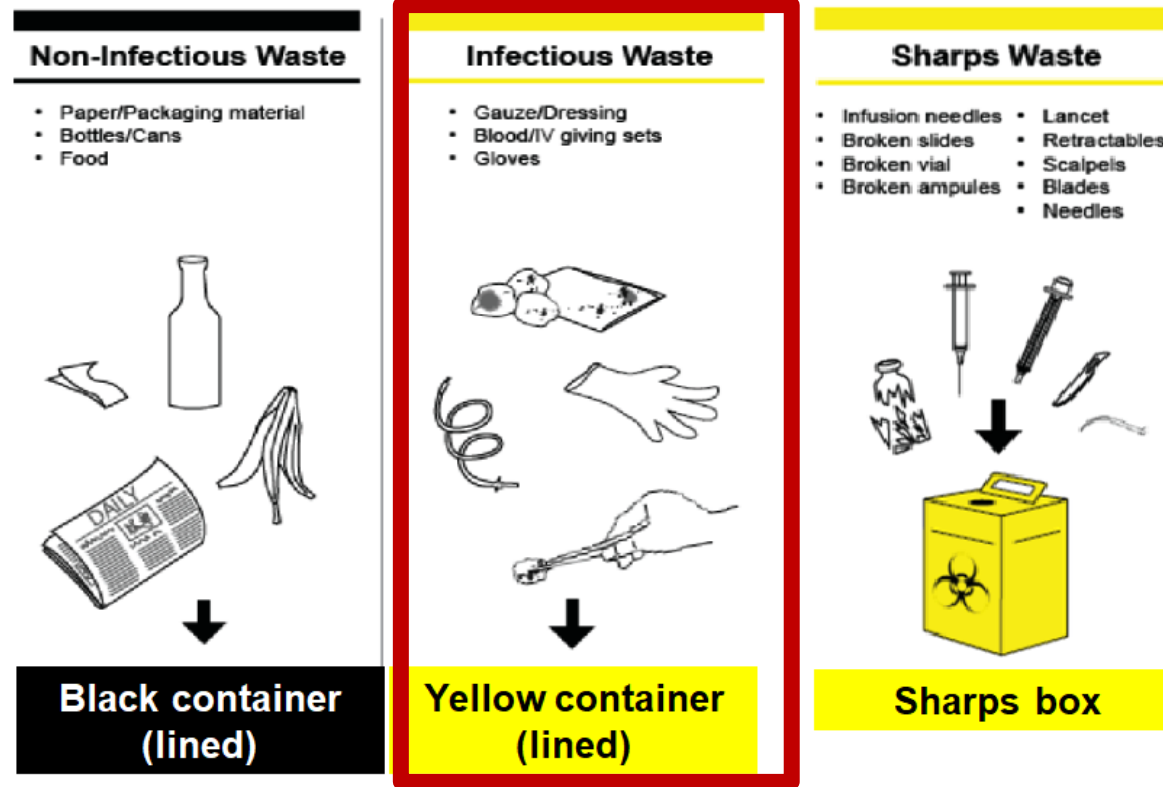
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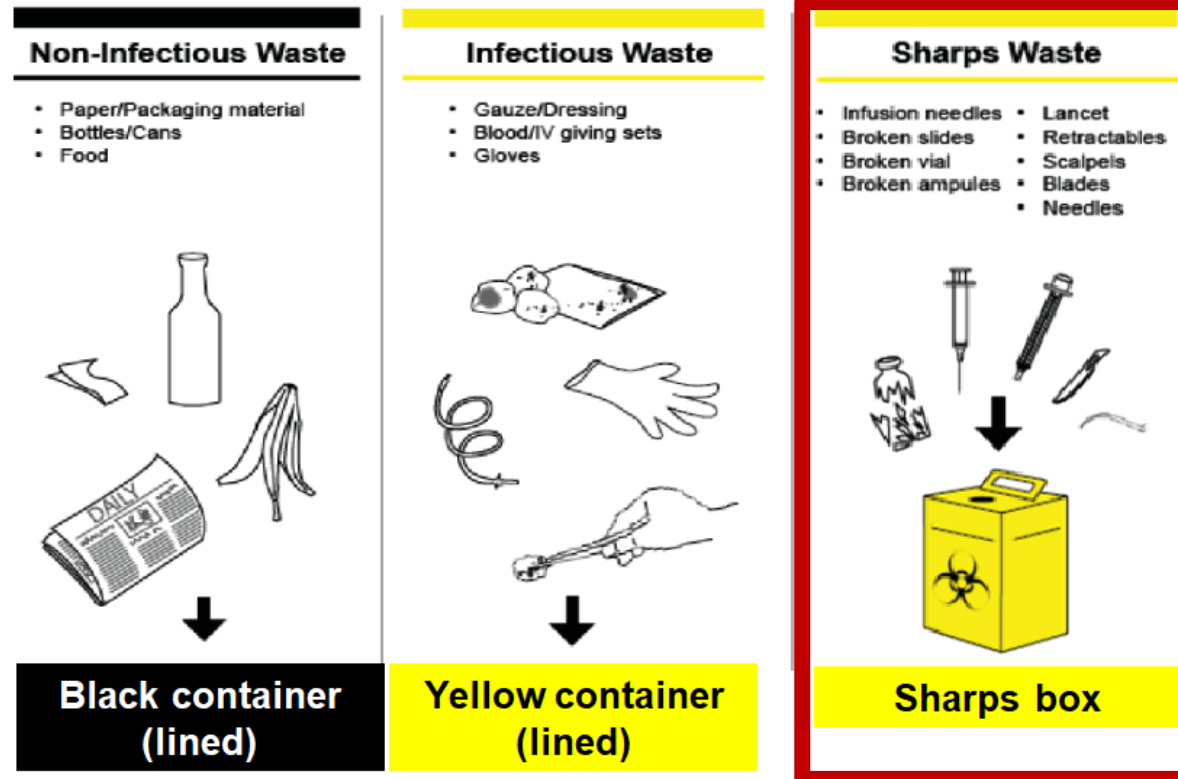
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Sharps Waste

Sharps containers

- Resistant to leaks and punctures
- Closes without risk of injury
- When closed, cannot be reopened
- Clearly labeled
- Should NOT be overfilled

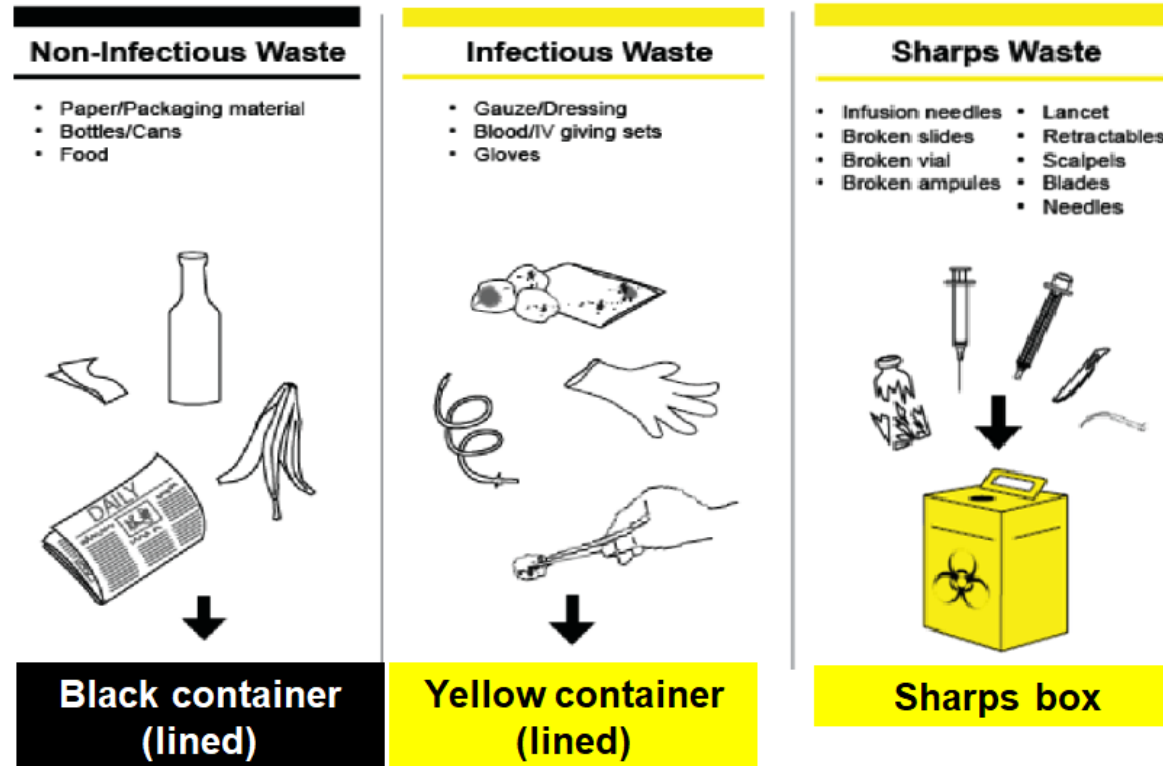


Location

- In each patient care area
- Within arm's reach when giving an injection
- On a medicine cart, on a wall, or on a nearby table/surface
- NOT on floor (dangerous for children; cardboard boxes can break with repeated moisture/water on floor)

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Personal Protective Equipment for Waste Handlers

- Sufficient PPE should be available for collecting, handling, or disposing of potentially infectious waste
- This includes:
 - heavy duty gloves
 - gown or coveralls
 - face mask
 - eye protection
 - thick-soled shoes or boots
 - heat proof gloves (if incineration or burning is done for treating waste)



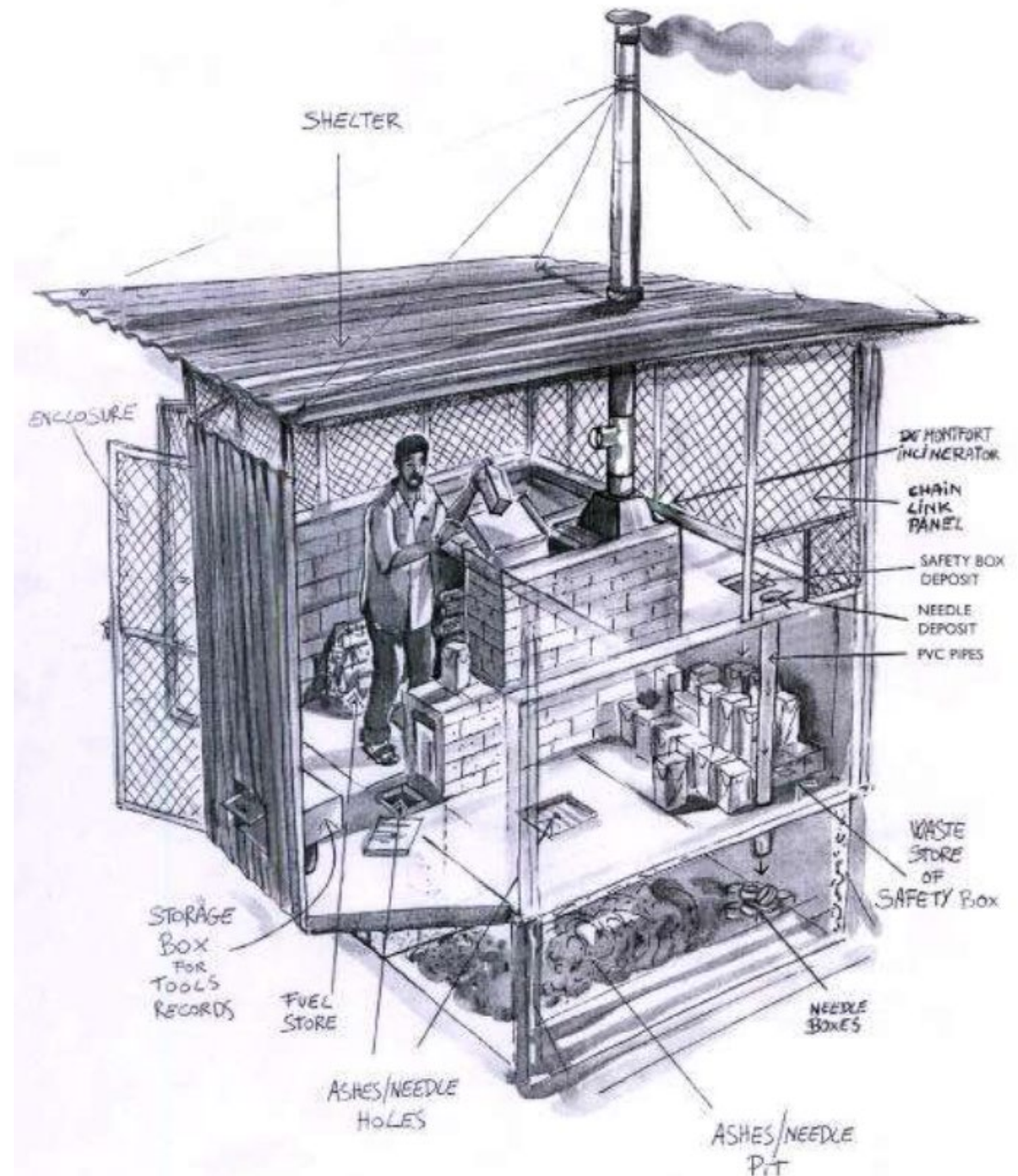
Collecting and Transporting Waste



- Waste bags should be collected on a regular schedule or when bin is 2/3 full
 - Wear appropriate PPE (heavy duty gloves, gown or coveralls, face mask, eye protection, foot covers or boots) when handling contaminated waste
 - Transport the waste in a cart or wheelbarrow from place of segregation to place of storage or disposal
 - Follow a designated transportation route

Waste Storage

- Infectious waste storage
 - must be separate from general waste
 - should have a cleanable floor and be covered to protect from rain
 - should have controlled access to prevent entrance by animals, children, and unauthorized people
- The waste should not be stored for more than 24 hours before final disposal



Waste Disposal

- Healthcare facilities must have a **functional system** for the final disposal of waste
- **Infectious and potentially infectious waste** must be:
 - IncineratedOR
 - **Treated** with non-burn treatment (autoclaving/grinding or other alternative treatment) before being placed in regular waste streamOR
 - **Buried**

Knowledge Check: Waste Management

While visiting a healthcare facility, you see this example of waste disposal.

What feedback could you give to help make waste disposal safer at this facility?



Knowledge Check Feedback

- To prevent waste from accumulating in open areas, a facility should have:
 - **Process in place to segregate waste with resources available**
 - Access to standard operating procedures and documents to explain waste management
 - Access to training on risks of open waste and proper waste management
 - Temporary waste storage area that can be secured
 - Equipment to treat and dispose of waste



Reflection

- How is the current waste process at your facility similar to or different from the process we discussed today?
- Considering your facility's current waste management process, what could be added or changed to improve the process to help ensure your safety and the safety of others at your facility and in your community during an outbreak of Ebola or Marburg?

Key Takeaways

- Performing the waste management process correctly is crucial to help keep you, others at your facility, and your community safe.
- Waste handlers should always wear proper PPE during the waste management process to help keep them safe during this vital process.

Thank you!

For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

