

ISBN 978-0-626-21200-1

SANS 10248-1:2008

Edition 1

SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

Management of healthcare waste

Part 1: Management of healthcare risk waste from a healthcare facility

Published by Standards South Africa
1 dr lategan road groenkloof ☒ private bag x191 pretoria 0001
tel: 012 428 7911 fax: 012 344 1568 international code + 27 12
www.stansa.co.za
© Standards South Africa

standards
SouthAfrica
(a division of SABS)

SANS 10248-1:2008

Edition 1

Table of changes

Change No.	Date	Scope

Foreword

This South African standard was approved by National Committee StanSA SC 5140.06M, *National committee for dangerous goods standards – Disposal of healthcare waste*, in accordance with procedures of Standards South Africa, in compliance with annex 3 of the WTO/TBT agreement.

This document was published in May 2008. This document supersedes SANS 10248 (edition 2).

SANS 10248 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Management of healthcare waste*:

Part 1: Management of healthcare risk waste from a healthcare facility.

Part 2: (in course of preparation).

Part 3: (in course of preparation).

Annexes A, B, D and F form an integral part of this document. Annexes C and E are for information only.

Introduction

This part of SANS 10248 presents the basic elements for the management of healthcare risk waste. In this respect certain issues are considered to be of importance for the successful application of this standard, namely

- a) the need to deal with the management aspects of healthcare risk waste in addition to the technical operation of healthcare risk waste disposal,
- b) the need for a document suitable for audit purposes that can be administered to fulfil the needs of the generators which might have greatly varying resources,
- c) the need to control the potential hazards from chemicals, materials that emit ionising radiation and the spread of infectious diseases that can place the public and especially waste disposal workers at risk,
- d) the need for guidelines covering the entire cycle, including waste minimization, point of use disposal through internal and external transportation to final treatment and disposal, and
- e) the need for an environmental management policy.

Contents

Foreword

Introduction

1	Scope	3
2	Normative references	3
3	Definitions and abbreviations	4
4	Requirements	9
4.1	Management requirements	9
4.2	Requirements for the waste management team	10
5	The waste management plan	13
5.1	General	13
5.2	Documentation requirements	14
5.3	Contractual commitments	15
5.4	Work procedures and work instructions	15
5.5	Inspection and quality control	16
5.6	Health and safety policy	16
5.7	Training	17
5.8	Workplace hygiene	17
6	Identification, classification, segregation, collection and minimization of healthcare waste	18
6.1	Identification	18
6.2	Classification	19
6.3	Waste segregation	19
6.4	Collection	19
6.5	Waste minimization	19
7	Packaging	21
7.1	Packaging requirements for healthcare general waste	21
7.2	Packaging requirements for healthcare risk waste	21
7.3	Colour coding of packaging	21
7.4	Packaging for infectious waste (excluding sharps)	22
7.5	Packaging for sharps	23
7.6	Packaging for chemical waste	23
8	Waste storage	28
8.1	Temporary healthcare risk waste stores	28
8.2	Central healthcare risk waste stores	28
8.3	Provisions for the storage of infectious waste and non-infectious anatomical waste	30
8.4	Provisions for the storage of chemical and pharmaceutical waste	30
8.5	Provisions for the storage of radioactive waste	31
8.6	Provisions for the storage of healthcare general waste	31
9	Collection and transportation of healthcare risk waste	31

SANS 10248-1:2008

Edition 1

9.1	Collection of healthcare risk waste within a healthcare facility	31
9.2	Transportation of healthcare risk waste within a healthcare facility.....	32
9.3	Collection of healthcare risk waste for off-site transportation	32
9.4	Off-site transportation of healthcare risk waste	33
10	Spillage of healthcare risk waste during transportation	33
10.1	Policy and strategies	33
10.2	Clean-up procedures for infectious waste and hazardous chemical waste spills.....	34
10.3	Clean-up procedures for cytotoxic pharmaceutical waste spills	34
11	Treatment and disposal methods	35
11.1	General	35
11.2	Disposal via discharge to a municipal sewer	35
11.3	Disposal of healthcare risk waste by incineration	36
11.4	Disposal of healthcare risk waste by alternative technologies.....	37
11.5	Authorized treatment facilities operated on-site at healthcare facilities.....	37
11.6	Authorized treatment facilities operated off-site from healthcare facilities.....	38
Annex A	(normative) National legislation and other publications	39
Annex B	(normative) Contractual commitments	40
Annex C	(informative) Examples of documents	41
Annex D	(normative) Hazard classes and hazard rating	44
Annex E	(informative) 'Green' procurement.....	46
Annex F	(normative) Hazard labelling.....	49
Bibliography	54

Management of healthcare waste

Part 1:

Management of healthcare risk waste from a healthcare facility

1 Scope

This standard lays down minimum provisions for the safe and effective management of healthcare risk waste generated by healthcare facilities and other places where healthcare professionals work in order to reduce potential risks to humans and to the environment. The management of healthcare risk waste covers the generation, the packaging, the treatment and the disposal (cradle-to-grave) of the waste.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies. Information on currently valid national and international standards can be obtained from Standards South Africa.

2.1 Standards

SANS 452, *Reusable and non-reusable sharps containers* (in course of preparation).

SANS 1518, *Transport of dangerous goods – Design, construction, testing, approval and maintenance for road vehicles and portable tanks*.

SANS 10228, *The identification and classification of dangerous goods for transport*.

SANS 10229-1, *Transport of dangerous goods – Packaging and large packaging for road and rail transport – Part 1: Packaging*.

SANS 10231, *Transport of dangerous goods – Operational requirements for road vehicles*.

SANS 10232-1, *Transport of dangerous goods – Emergency information systems – Part 1: Emergency information system for road transport*.

SANS 10232-3, *Transport of dangerous goods – Emergency information systems – Part 3: Emergency response guides*.

SANS 10233 (SABS 0233), *Transportation of dangerous goods – Intermediate bulk containers*.