

## Patient information sheet regarding safe storage of your sharps container

This information sheet aims to provide you with information about how to safely store a sharps container in your home.

The sharps box is designed for the safe disposal of needles or any other sharp or broken materials. It is for the use of health professionals or appropriately informed patients only.

Your nurse will put together the sharps container, ensuring the lid is properly locked into place and will sign and date it.

The sharps container is yellow. They come in various sizes and shapes, with a red, yellow or purple lid. The sharps container lid should be partially closed but not fully closed, as this will cause it to lock and render it unusable.

You should store it upright, in a dry place, away from children and pets.

The sharps container should not be more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  full. Once it reaches  $\frac{3}{4}$  full, your nurse will take it away for proper disposal and provide you with a new sharps container.

You must not attempt to remove objects from the sharps container - doing so can cause a needlestick injury.

In the event of a needlestick injury or if the sharps container has a spillage, please contact your Clatterbridge in the Community Treatment team at 0151 556 5889 (8.30am-4.30pm).

After hours, on weekends and holidays, please contact The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre Hotline on 0800 169 5555.

We recommend all members of your household and visitors be made aware of your sharps container and these safe storage instructions.

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