

Title:	Disposal of Controlled Drug Waste on Scene
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Equality Impact Assessment

The East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust has made every effort to ensure this policy does not have the effect of discriminating, directly or indirectly, against employees, patients, contractors or visitors on the grounds of race, colour, age, nationality, ethnic (or national) origin, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, religious belief or disability. This policy will apply equally to full and part time employees. All East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust policies can be provided in large print or Braille formats if requested, and language line interpreter services are available to individuals who require them.





1.0 Process for Disposal of Controlled Drugs Waste on Scene

Identifying Wastage

Identify the Controlled Drug wastage that needs disposal.



Preparing the Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit

Prepare the Controlled Drug Dentaturing Kit (found inside the grey CD pouch) by placing it upright on a stable flat surface and take the lid off. Ensure the blue powder is inside the pot before using, if there is no powder inside the pot, change it for a new one.



Disposing of Controlled Drug Waste

Disposal of Controlled Drug waste must be witnessed unless solo working. In witness column in red CD book witness must sign and print or, if solo working, write 'solo working'. Dispose of Controlled Drug waste by emptying the contents of the CD powder, liquid (using syringe for ease) or placing the tablet/capsule into Denaturing Kit container. Do not fill past half full. Then fill container with water, replace lid and shake. Contents should congeal instantly. Controlled Drug Denaturing Kits are single use only.



Disposal of Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit

Making sure the lid is secure, place the Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit into the yellow sharps bin.

Denaturing Kits must be disposed of after the single use and cannot be retained for future disposal.



Restocking the Controlled Drug pouch and vehicle with Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit

The vehicle should have a stock of one Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit inside the grey CD pouch and two Denaturing Kits inside the CD locker in the vehicle. Replace the Denaturing Kit inside the grey CD pouch after every use. Replace the Denaturing Kits in the vehicle when stock is low.

Replacement stock can be found at station.



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2.0 Statement

The purpose of the Controlled Drug Denaturing Kits is to ensure that Controlled Drug wastage is disposed of in a safe manor, ensuring once the drugs have been placed in the pots, they cannot be accessed in their natural state.

3.0 Identifying Wastage

Wastage in relation to Controlled Drugs is considered to be surplus/excess medication which will not be administered to the patient and is therefore not required and in need of disposal. For example, a drawn up or opened ampule containing a controlled drug in a liquid form, or a tablet form drug which has a punctured packet and is no longer useable.

Sharps left from drawing up or administering controlled drugs should be disposed of in a yellow sharps bin, not placed within the Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit as per Trust protocol.

Empty packets from tablet-form controlled drugs should be disposed of in the contaminated waste bin, not placed within the Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit.

4.0 Preparing the Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit

The Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit can be found inside the grey Controlled Drug pouch, where it is possible with two spare Denaturing Kits stored inside the Controlled Drug locker in the vehicle. The Denaturing Kit is a clear plastic tube which contains blue powder, which will turn into a gel once liquid has been added. To ensure the Controlled Drugs can be disposed of it is essential the blue powder is in the pot, if there is no powder, you will need to use another pot. Place Denaturing Kit upright on a flat stable surface and take off the lid.

5.0 Disposing of Controlled Drug Waste

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Disposing of Controlled Drug waste must be witnessed unless solo working. In the red Controlled Drug book witness column, the witness must sign and print their name or, if solo working, write 'solo working'. The red Controlled Drug book can be found inside the grey Controlled Drug pouch.

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- **5.1** Liquid/Powder: empty contents of powder packet, syringe or ampule into Denaturing Kit. If there is remaining liquid in the ampule, first draw this up into a syringe for easier disposal and then empty the contents into the Denaturing Kit. Dispose of the syringe into the controlled waste bin and any sharps into the yellow sharps bin.
- 5.2 Tablet/Capsule: place tablets/capsules inside Denaturing Kit. Once the Controlled Drug waste is placed inside the Denaturing Kit, fill the pot to capacity with water, replace the lid securely and shake. The contents will congeal instantly and form a gel encasing the Controlled Drug waste. The Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit is single use only. Do not use Water for Injection for disposal as this is a separate drug that needs to be signed out. Instead, use the water available on the ambulance, or if at hospital, tap water can be utilised. However, disposal must be done inside the ambulance, not inside the hospital to prevent contamination.

6.0 Disposal of Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit

Once the Denaturing Kit is full and has been closed securely, place into the large yellow sharps bin found on a standard Double Staffed Ambulance. If on an RRV, you will need to; utilise a crews large yellow sharps bin where possible, return to station for disposal or lock the used Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit in the Controlled Drug locker until the earliest opportunity to dispose of it. This must be done by the end of your shift and must not be left on the vehicle. The Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit must be disposed of after a single use and cannot be retained for future disposal. Please ensure the lid for the Denaturing Kit is securely sealed to avoid leakage inside the yellow sharps bin.





7.0 Restocking the Controlled Drug pouch and vehicle with Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit

Replace the used Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit from the grey Controlled Drug pouch with one of the spare Kits found inside the Controlled Drug locker. There must be a Denaturing Kit available inside the Controlled Drug pouch at all times. Once all Kits have been used from the vehicle or if you have returned to station prior to this, restock the Kits to have one inside the grey Controlled Drug pouch where possible and two inside the Controlled Drug locker. Total stock is three and should not go below one.

8.0 Appendix

8.1 Fig. 1 Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit



8.2 Fig. 2 Images of where Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit will be found on standard Double Staffed Ambulance and inside grey Controlled Drug pouch where possible.



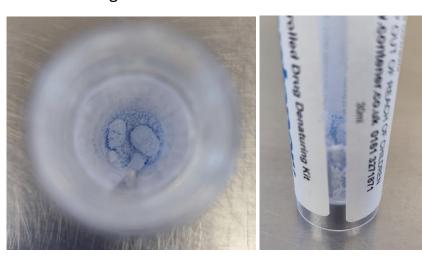


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8.3 Fig. 3a - 3b Examples of the blue powder inside the Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit



8.4 Fig. 4a - 4i Images of Directions for Disposing of Controlled Drug waste into the Controlled Drugs Denaturing Kit

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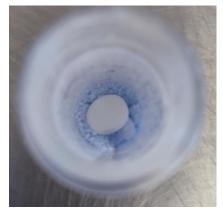
Standard Operational Procedure East of England Ambulance Service























8.5 Fig. 5a - 5b Example images of Controlled Drug Denaturing Kit container disposal

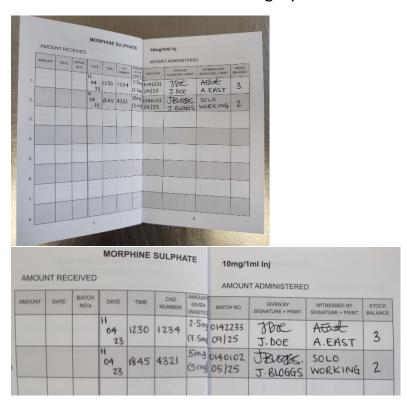
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8.6 Fig. 6 Example of how to correctly fill out the red Controlled Drug book found within the grey Controlled Drug pouch





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8.7 Fig. 7 Example of Quick Reference Guide signage document for email and vehicles



8.8 Fig. 8a - 8c Images of where signage will be placed in standard Double Staffed Ambulance



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