HEALTHCARE WASTE CLASSIFICATION

REGULAR WASTE
- Clear or Black Bags
- Includes:
  - IV bags and tubing
  - Empty medication vials or containers
  - Trash / wrappers
  - Dressings
  - Chux / underpads
  - Empty foley bags and other drainage bags
  - Disposable patient items
  - Sanitary napkins
  - Gloves

BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE
- Red Bags, Red Containers, or Bags / Containers with Biohazard Symbols
- Includes:
  - Blood and all OIM (Other Infectious Materials)
  - Blood tubing / bags / hemovacs / pleuravacs
  - Soaked / dripping bloody dressings
  - Contaminated waste from isolation patients
  - Suction canisters or liners with bloody fluid or OIM

SHARPS WASTE
- Red Sharps Containers, marked with Biohazard Symbol
- Includes:
  - All sharps (except those contaminated with chemo)
  - All empty syringes with attached needles, empty tubexes, empty carpjects
  - Trocars, introducers, guide wires, sharps from procedures, specimen devices in endoscopy, etc.
  - Examples: Needles, broken glass vials, blades, scapels, razors, pins, clips, etc.

PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE
- Blue Containers, often with Locking Mechanism
- Includes:
  - All syringes, tubexes, carpjects with residual (pourable) medication
  - IV bags and tubing with residual medication
  - Partially used / residual prescription or over-the-counter medication
  - Examples: Vials, tablets, capsules, powders, eyedrops, etc.
  - UNOPENED / UNUSED OR EXPIRED MEDICATIONS: CONTACT MEDPRO

HAZARDOUS PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE
- Return to Pharmacy; Black Containers
- Includes:
  - Hazardous R.C.R.A** Pharmaceuticals: Contact MedPro
  - Examples: Inhalers with residual (if empty - regular trash) unused nicotine gum or patches, epinephrine (sales not included), physostigmine, silvadence, etc.

Contact MedPro:
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