

Storage of sharps box in patients' homes

Patient Information

Community React Team-Integrated Services

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Introduction

This patient information leaflet aims to provide you with information on how to store a sharps box 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.

The sharps box is a yellow container, which can vary in size and may have either a red, yellow or purple lid.

You must ensure that the sharps box is stored in a safe area away from children or pets. Please obtain further advice from the nursing staff who are visiting you.

The sharps box lid should be partially closed but not fully closed, as this will cause it to self-lock.

Everyone in your household and visitors must be made aware of the sharps box and the safe storage instructions.

In the event that there is spillage from the sharps box please contact the Community React Team or the district nurses on the contact number at the end of this leaflet.

You must not attempt to remove any objects from the sharps box as this may result in a needle stick injury.

Contact information

Please contact the nurses if you have any more questions about the use of the sharps box.

Community React Team

Contact Times: Monday to Sunday 8am to 8.30pm

Telephone: 01942 822642 or 01942 822639

District Nurses Evening and Night Service

Contact Time: 8.30pm to 8am

Telephone: 01942 481155 **Mobile:** 07860794654

Please use this space to write notes or reminders.

Comments, Compliments or Complaints

The Patient Relations/Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) Department provides confidential on the spot advice, information and support to patients, relatives, friends and carers.

Contact Us

Tel: 01942 822376 (Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm)

The Patient Relations/PALS Manager
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary
Wigan Lane
Wigan WN1 2NN

Ask 3 Questions

Become more involved in decisions about your healthcare. You may be asked to make choices about your treatment. To begin with, try to make sure you get the answers to three key questions:

1. What are my options?
2. What are the pros and cons of each option for me?
3. How do I get support to help me make a decision that is right for me?



How We Use Your Information

For details on how we collect, use and store the information we hold about you, please take a look at our “how we use your information” leaflet which can be found on the Trust website: https://www.wwl.nhs.uk/patient_information/leaflets

This leaflet is also available in audio, large print, Braille and other languages upon request. For more information please ask in the department/ward.

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Call 111 first, when it's less urgent than 999.