

From: [Tracey Gaddelin](#)
To: [David Skimmings \(HealthShare NSW\)](#); [Lisa Lucas \(HealthShare NSW\)](#)
Subject: Cleaners Duties - Clarification Please
Date: Tuesday, 16 November 2021 10:44:00 AM
Attachments: [Photos clinical waste.jpg](#)
[Photo 2 clinical waste.jpg](#)
[image001.png](#)

Morning David and Lisa,

I trust you are both well today.

I have been approached by members in the cleaning department who are seeking clarification on what clinical waste they are to remove.

As you can see from the photos attached these clinical waste bins are being collected by the cleaners, but I am also being told that they are also required to empty the placenta bowls in maternity. I do not exactly know what this is however can you please clarify if the disposal of human tissue is under the cleaner's duties. I am aware that some clinical waste is removed from cleaners however the clinical yellow bins I thought were done by the waste management team.

I have also been approached with regards to the air mattresses. The members have told me that this is quite time consuming as they have to empty the air out of the mattress which and only be achieved by laying and rolling on the mattress this is not appropriate. The contractor that supplies these mattresses has commented to the staff that no other site is required to more or empty the mattress as it is part of the contract so can you please advise why this is different at Maitland. These mattresses are very cumbersome and heavy I am told approx. 17kg without air. The last I had been told a safe lifting weight was around 15kg so the mattresses would exceed this. Has HealthShare completed a review for safe work practices on these mattresses?

Please provide feedback by way of updates or responses to the issues raised by COB Friday 19 November 2021.

Kind regards
Tracey

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