



Your Safe Solution  
Clinical Waste Containment

sharp**safe**®

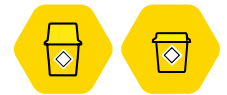
clini**safe**

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# Clinical Waste Containment Overview



Frontier Medical Group is a market leading company, manufacturing and providing innovative clinical waste containment solutions both in the UK and internationally.

This training manual has been designed to guide you and / or newly appointed staff on the correct usage, handling, and cleaning of Sharpsafe and Clinisafe clinical waste containers for the safe disposal of sharps and clinical waste. Developing competence in this way will help you gain maximum return on the training investment and ensure sharps and clinical waste is disposed of safely, securely and compliantly.





## What is Sharpsafe?

Sharpsafe is the world's first purpose designed disposable plastic sharps container - meeting all the required international standards. Sharpsafe comprises a range of sharps containers - from 0.2L to 30L - with a 'Protected Access' range also available plus a 'Near Patient Sharps Disposal System'.



## Sharpsafe Range Overview

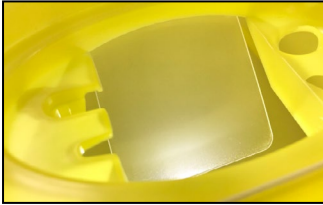
	1L	1.8L	2L	3L	4L	7L	9L	13L	24L	30L
Four Click Assembly	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Temporary Closure	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Final Closure	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Safety Shield			✓	✓	✓	✓				
Part of the NPSD Range	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Large Horizontal Aperture							✓	✓	✓	✓
Available in Protected Access							✓	✓	✓	✓
Stackable Lid	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Handle	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
In-Mould Label	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Made from Polypropylene	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

# Sharpsafe Features and Benefits



## Overview

### Safety Shield



A clear, internal shield which returns to the closed position once the sharp has passed through. This offers added protection by preventing overfilling, stops contents from leaving the container if knocked over and ensures fingers and small hands are prevented from entering the container, helping to prevent needlestick injuries.

### Final Closure



Final closure permanently closes the Sharpsafe container. No further waste can be added, preventing overfilling and potential spillages which can cause needlestick injuries.

### Temporary Closure



Indicates when the container is not in use. This provides added reassurance when the container is in use and helps prevent needlestick injuries by restricting access or from content spillages if the container is knocked over.

### Four Click Assembly



An audible click confirms the lid and base are assembled correctly and securely. This informs you that the product is safe for use.

### Made from Polypropylene

Polypropylene is robust and helps to prevent sharps penetration through the wall of the container. It is also easy to clean externally.

### Available in Protected Access

An integral, barrel shaped rotating aperture provides added security for the user, patients and members of the public, by reducing the risk of injuries from fingers and small hands entering the container. This also discourages the use of the containers for non-sharps waste, avoiding unnecessary waste disposal costs. Designed and intended primarily for use in public access areas such as accident and emergency, outpatients and anywhere children may be present.

### Stackable Lid

Reduces storage space requirements.

### Handle



An integral carry handle allows the containers to be picked up and carried without the health care worker touching the main body of the container and risking injury. The handle can also be used with the Safe-Clip bracket which has been designed to support the Sharpsafe 2L, 3L, 4L, 7L containers.

### In-Mould Label



Sharpsafe labels are moulded into the wall of the container. As a result, they cannot be removed and so offer a permanent audit trail.

### Large Horizontal Aperture

Allowing easier fill for larger items.



# Near Patient Sharps Disposal System



An estimated 28% of needlestick injuries (NSIs) could be prevented every year, reducing fear and sharps disposal trauma amongst health workers<sup>1</sup>. There are approximately 100,000 cases reported per year in the NHS alone<sup>2</sup>.

Statistics show that doctors and nurses are most likely to be affected, with 37.8% of NSI cases involving nurses<sup>3</sup>. Whilst many are trained in sharps management, 30% of NSIs happen to someone who is not the user of the sharp and in over 5% of cases, the source patient isn't known<sup>4</sup>.

NSIs also present a significant financial implication for healthcare providers. According to the NHS Resolution annual report and accounts (2016/ 2017)<sup>5</sup>, it received over 1,800 incident claims for NSIs over the past five years, with successful claims costing the NHS over £4 million.

In response to the incidence of NSIs and the resulting cost, UK health and safety guidance states that used sharps should be disposed at the point of use by the user, and that's something we've tried to address with our Near Patient Sharps Disposal (NPSD) practice and associated products.

The Sharpsafe Near Patient Sharps Disposal system allows sharp containment products to be taken to the patient and so disposing safely at the 'point of use'. This eliminates secondary handling and so reducing many of the opportunities for needlestick injuries.

The NPSD range include Sharpsafe trays that are designed to hold a sharps container and are designed specifically to be taken to the patient, providing a large, easy to clean surface, as well as equipment to give injections and carry the required paraphernalia. This then allows for sharps to be disposed of at the point of use, putting health care workers at a much lower risk and helping to reduce the risk of NSIs.



1. International Safety Center. U.S. EPINet Sharps Injury and Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Surveillance Research Group. Sharps Injury Data Report for January 2015; 1,133 total injuries analysed. <https://internationalsafetycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Official-2015-NeedleSummary.pdf>

2. Managing the risks of sharps injuries, NHS Employers <http://www.nhsemployers.org/~media/Employers/Documents/Retain%20and%20improve/Health%20and%20wellbeing/Managing%20the%20risks%20of%20sharps%20injuries%20v7.pdf?dl=1>

3. International Safety Center. U.S. EPINet Sharps Injury and Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Surveillance Research Group. Sharps Injury Data Report for January 2015; 1,133 total injuries analysed. <https://internationalsafetycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Official-2015-NeedleSummary.pdf>

4. International Safety Center. U.S. EPINet Sharps Injury and Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Surveillance Research Group. Sharps Injury Data Report for January 2015; 1,133 total injuries analysed. <https://internationalsafetycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Official-2015-NeedleSummary.pdf>

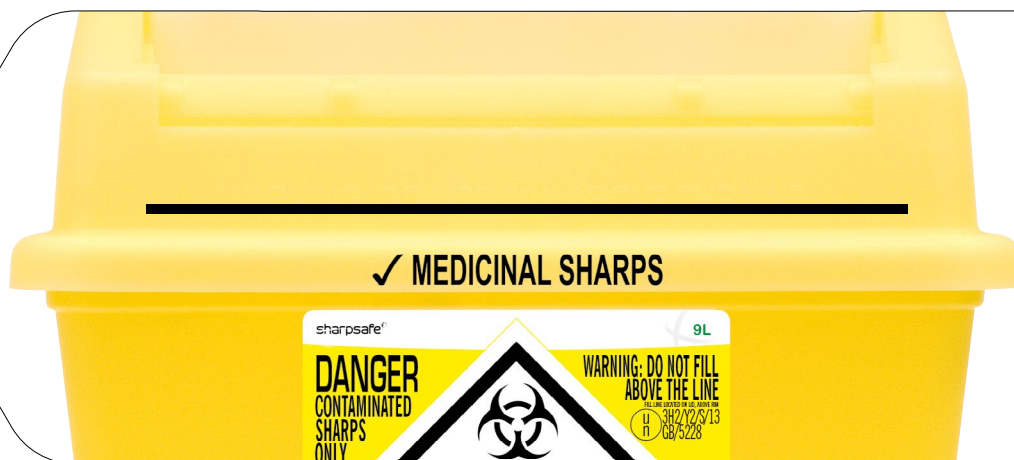
5. NHS Resolution's annual report and accounts. <http://resolution.nhs.uk/annual-report-and-accounts-201617/>



# Sharpsafe Container Assembly



## Line and Label Positioning



Line  
&  
Label



Always assemble your Sharpsafe container with the fill line and label facing to the front. This ensures the fill line is always visible during use.

## Four Click Assembly



Four  
Click  
Assembly



All Sharpsafe containers take just four clicks to assemble. An audible click from each corner confirms the lid and base are assembled correctly and securely.

# Sharpsafe Container Assembly



## Fill Line



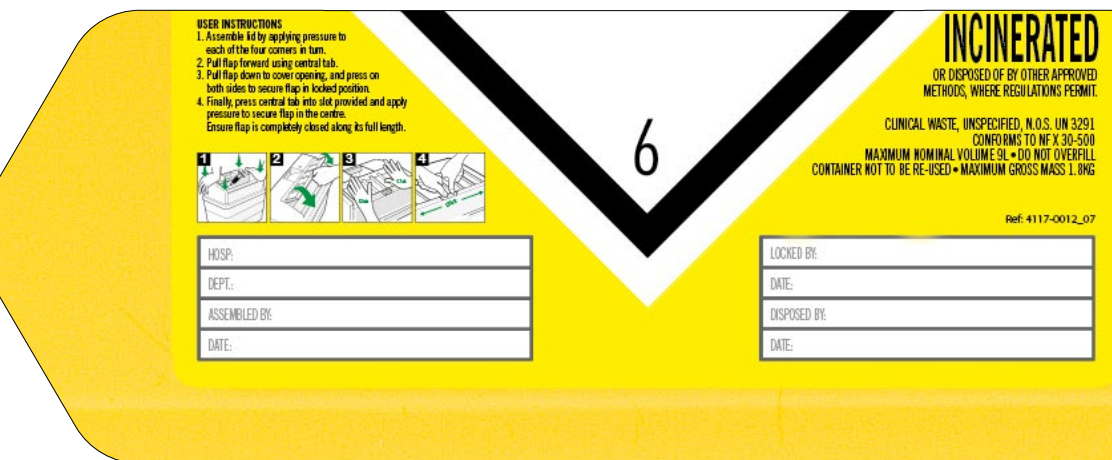
Fill  
Line  
Capacity



As per infection control guidance, never fill a container above the line [NHS Professional Standard Infection Control Precautions, 2010. p.18].

Always replace your Sharpsafe container when the fill line has been reached.

## Signing and Dating the In-Mould Label



Sign  
&  
Date



The label on your Sharpsafe container must be completed when starting to use the container and again once sealed [NHS Professional Standard Infection Control Precautions, 2010. p.18]. Text boxes must be filled out to facilitate traceability as part of Trust environmental audits.





### Temporary Closure



Sharpsafe containers are lightweight and portable and may be placed in a NPSD tray, mounted on a trolley or carried in between procedures.

To that end, NHS professional standard Infection Control Precaution 2010, mandates that all sharps containers have a temporary closure feature to prevent accidental spillages of contents and avoid unwanted fingers entering the aperture.

To engage, close the lid from the open position, continuing until a click is heard from the tab at the front of the lid. This indicates the temporary closure is engaged.

To release, rotate the tab forward or backwards until a click is heard, and then lift the lid until it reaches the open position. The container is now ready for use.

### Final Closure



When the container is filled to the fill line, final closure should be engaged, permanently locking the container.

To engage final closure, place the container on a suitable surface. As shown above, with the container in temporary closure, press the lid down firmly. As the final closure engages, you will hear some audible clicks which indicate final closure has been engaged. You will also notice the tab at the front has disappeared into the locking catch.

All containers should be permanently closed before disposed of. Complete all relevant sections of the label, including name and date of closure.

## Closure for Sizes: 9L, 13L, 24L and 30L



### Temporary Closure



Temporary Closure



The temporary closure mechanism on sharps containers should be used in between use for safety [NHS Professional Standard Infection Control Precautions p.18]. To engage the temporary closure feature, pull the lid up fully using the central tab rotating the lid until it covers the aperture. The temporary closure is now engaged.

### Final Closure



Final Closure



Place the container onto a suitable surface to engage final closure. Pull the cover lid up fully using the central tab. Rotate the lid down to cover the aperture. Firmly apply pressure along the front of the lid to engage the final closure.

All containers should be permanently closed before disposed of. Complete all relevant sections of the label, including name and date of closure.

# Clinisafe Waste Containment Solutions



## What is Clinisafe?

Ranging from 3L to 60L, the Clinisafe Plastic Clinical Waste Container range has been designed to hold anatomical and laboratory waste, with a hermetic glue seal providing improved leak resistance.

## Clinisafe Features and Benefits

### Leak Resistant Seal



An hermetic glue seal makes the container capable of containing bone, blood and other tissue fluids. This provides a high level of leak resistance and ensures that handlers and the public are protected from exposure to the waste.

### Simple Four Click Final Closure



Engaged when the container is full and ready to be disposed. An audible click confirms the lid and base are sealed correctly and securely with the hermetic glue seal. Once engaged, no further contents can be added to the container, preventing overfilling and exposure to the waste.

### In-Mould Label



Our Clinisafe containers have an in-mould label (excluding 30L and 60L containers) which cannot be removed, offering a permanent audit trail.

### Temporary Closure



Indicates when the container is not in use. This provides added reassurance when container is in use and helps prevent exposure to the waste.

# Clinisafe Container Assembly



## Locate Base and Lid



Lid  
&  
Base



Locate the Clinisafe container base and correct waste stream lid. Position lid on container base but take care not to press down heavily. All Clinisafe containers take just four clicks to permanently close with the hermetic glue seal.

## Signing and Dating the In-Mould Label



Sign  
&  
Date



The label on your Clinisafe containers must be completed when starting to use the container and again once sealed [NHS Professional Standard Infection Control Precautions. 2010. p.18]. Text boxes must be filled out to facilitate traceability as part of Trust environmental audits.



## Closure for Sizes: 3L, 5L, 7L, 30L and 60L



### Temporary Closure



To engage the temporary closure feature, position lid on base rim but do not press down on the lid as this will cause the hermetic glue seal to activate. This indicates the temporary closure is engaged.

To release the temporary closure feature, remove the lid.

### Final Closure



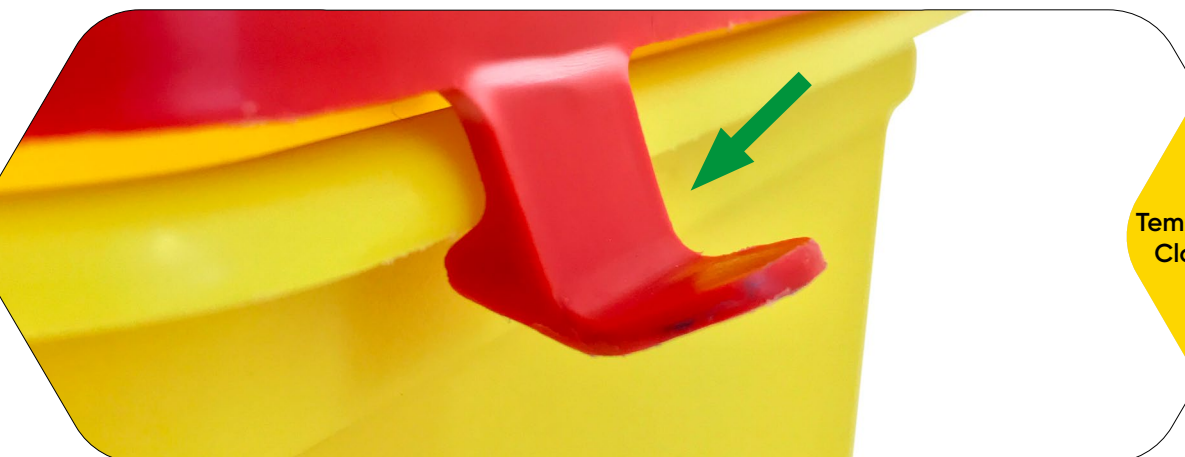
Place the container onto a suitable and secure surface. To engage final closure, position the lid on the base rim and firmly apply pressure, ensuring all corners are securely sealed. All containers should be permanently closed before disposal. Complete all relevant sections of the label, including name and date of closure.



## Closure for Sizes: 8L and 11L



### Temporary Closure



Temporary Closure



To engage the temporary closure feature, pull lid forward using the two side tabs to cover the aperture. Position tabs below base rim. This indicates the temporary closure is engaged.

To release the temporary closure feature, release the tabs and pull lid upwards to open the aperture.

### Final Closure



Final Closure



Place the container onto a suitable surface to engage final closure. To engage, pull the lid forward to cover the aperture and position the tab below the base rim. Firmly apply pressure, ensuring all corners are securely sealed.

All containers should be permanently closed before disposed of. Complete all relevant sections of the label, including name and date of closure.



## 1. How does aligning the line and label help with sharp safety?

Aligning the line and label to the front makes it easy to see when containers are full, helping to prevent needlestick injuries.

## 2. I find the product difficult to assemble – am I doing anything wrong?

No. In order for the container to be correctly and permanently sealed, a certain amount of force is required. This ensures the product is resistant to damage and is safe for use in public access areas. New users sometimes take a while to get used to the amount of force required, but this will get easier over time.

To ease assembly, place the base on a hard surface such as a table or desk and correctly position the lid with the label and fill line aligned. Stabilise with one hand and firmly press down with the other on each corner until you hear a click repeat in each corner.

## 3. What happens if I fill above the fill line?

Overfilling the container may lead to needlestick injuries to yourself, members of the public or your colleagues.

## 4. What happens if you don't sign and date the label?

The label on the Sharpsafe containers must be signed and dated when starting to use the container and again once placed in permanent closure - either when full or following three months of use (or in line with Trust protocol) – to facilitate tracing if required [NHS Professional Standard Infection Control Precautions, 2010. p.18].

## 5. Why is the label font size quite small?

To enable UN 3291 conformance, the diamond must be a specific size per container. Therefore, this limits the amount of space we have for the additional information.

## 6. What happens if I don't use the temporary closure feature?

The temporary closure mechanism on sharps containers should be used in between use for safety [NHS Professional Standard Infection Control Precautions, 2010. p.18].

Contents may spill and result in contamination or injury to yourself, members of the public and / or your colleagues.

## 7. What should I do if I find blood or contaminated products/ substances on the container / shield / lid?

Contamination can sometimes transfer to the internal shield when heavily soiled items are placed into the container. Frontier does not advise the cleaning and wiping down the aperture and chute. Do not place fingers inside the aperture. To prevent access to the contamination, please use temporary closure. However, if the contamination is a concern, please do not hesitate to replace and dispose of the Sharpsafe container.

However, all Sharpsafe containers can be externally cleaned / wiped down with all commonly used cleaning agents found within the hospital environment. Please ensure that the aperture is clear from any sharps and placed into temporary closure prior to external cleaning.



## 1. I find the product difficult to permanently close – am I doing anything wrong?

No. In order for the container to be correctly and permanently sealed, a certain amount of force is required. This ensures the product is permanently closed and prevents exposure to the waste when the container is full. New users sometimes take a while to get used to the amount of force required, but this will get easier over time.

Please see closure instructions above for further details.

## 2. What happens if you don't sign and date the label?

The label on the Clinisafe container must be signed and dated when starting to use the container and again once sealed - either when full or within three months of using (or in line with Trust protocol) to facilitate tracing if required.

## 3. Why is the label font size quite small?

To enable UN 3291 conformance, the diamond must be a specific size per container. This restricts the amount of space we have for additional information.

## 4. What happens if I don't use the temporary closure feature?

The temporary closure mechanism on clinical waste containers should be used in between use for safety [NHS Professional Standard Infection Control Precautions, 2010. p.18].

Contents may spill and result in contamination to yourself, members of the public and / or your colleagues.

## 5. What should I do if I find blood or contaminated products/ substances on the container?

Contamination can sometimes transfer to the lid or container when anatomical waste and heavily soiled items are placed into the container. To prevent access to the contamination, please use temporary closure. However, if the contamination is a concern, please do not hesitate to replace and dispose of the Clinisafe container.

However, all Clinisafe containers (including the lid) can be externally cleaned / wiped down with all commonly used cleaning agents found within the hospital environment. Please ensure that the container is placed into temporary closure prior to external cleaning.

## 6. I've accidentally permanently closed the Clinisafe container. Is there a way to open it again?

The hermetic glue is a surface contact seal. This is a safety mechanism which provides a high level of leak resistance and ensures that handlers and the public are protected from exposure to the waste when the container is full. This cannot be reversed once sealed.

## Notes

## Notes



## Notes

For more information:

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