

# T28 – Sorting and denaturing of controlled drugs for disposal



## What is the purpose of this exemption?

This exemption enables pharmacies and other similar places to comply with the requirements of the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001 by denaturing controlled drugs.

## What types of activities can I do?

Example activities include:

- A pharmacy or veterinary surgery is required to denature controlled drugs prior to their disposal.

## Where can I carry out this activity?

This can be done at the [place of production](#) only.

## What can't I do?

You can't:

- treat any waste drugs that are [hazardous waste](#).
- treat controlled drugs at any place other than the [place of production](#).

## What are the key limits?

You can store or treat **up to 1 cubic metre of waste** at any one time.

You can store waste for **up to six months**.

## What are the key conditions?

Under this exemption you can only sort or denature controlled drugs prior to their disposal.

## What else do I need to know?

“Controlled drug” means a controlled drug specified in Schedules 1 to 5 of the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001.

The collection of other drugs and medicines may be allowed under a Non-Waste Framework Directive exemption which does not need to be registered.

customer service line

08708 506 506

[www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)

incident hotline

0800 80 70 60

floodline

0845 988 1188

## What waste can be used under this exemption?

The waste codes below are those listed in the List of Wastes (LoW) Regulations. You should read the guidance on the LoW to ensure that the waste type you want to treat fits within the waste code.

You need to make sure your waste falls within the LoW code and the written description in the table.

Further guidance on this can be found at <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/waste/32140.aspx>

| Codes  | Waste types  |
|--------|--|
| 180109 | Medicines from natal care, diagnosis, treatment or prevention of disease in humans       |
| 180208 | Medicines from research, diagnosis, treatment or prevention of disease involving animals |
| 200132 | Medicines separately collected as municipal waste  |

The full text of the legislation can be found at:

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2010/draft/ukdsi\\_9780111491423\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2010/draft/ukdsi_9780111491423_en_1)

## Registration of this exemption

You cannot register this exemption until **6 April 2010**. A link to the registration process is available on the following web page:

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/permitting/116406.aspx>

## Definitions

**“controlled drug”** means a controlled drug specified in Schedules 1 to 5 of the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001.

**“hazardous waste”**, except in Section 5.1 of Part 2 of Schedule 1:

(a) in relation to England, has the meaning given in regulation 6 of the Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2005,

(b) in relation to Wales, has the meaning given in regulation 6 of the Hazardous Waste (Wales) Regulations 2005.

Guidance on what is hazardous waste can be found at:

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/waste/32200.aspx>

**“place of production”** means in relation to any waste, the place where the waste was originally produced.

The full ‘**Glossary of terms**’ can be viewed [here](#).