



## BWI Code of Practice 6<sup>th</sup> Edition – Issues or Modifications

*The following provides a brief summary of significant changes from the 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Editions of the BWI Code of Practice. It is recommended that individuals read the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Code thoroughly to ensure they fully understand their responsibilities.*

- Change of name throughout Code to BWI (formerly ANZCWMIG)
- Re-ordering of Sections:
  - *Waste minimisation* becomes Section 3 (formerly Section 5)
  - *Management responsibilities* becomes Section 4 (formerly Section 6)
  - *Home healthcare waste* becomes Section 5 (formerly Section 4)
  - *Waste containment* becomes Section 6 (formerly Section 7)
  - *Storage requirements* becomes Section 7 (formerly Section 8)
  - *Transportation* becomes Section 8 (formerly Section 9)
  - *Treatment and disposal facilities* becomes Section 9 (formerly Section 10)
  - *Disposal of treatment residues* becomes Section 10 (formerly Section 11)
  - *Occupational Health and safety* becomes Section 11 (formerly Section 12)
  - *Education and training* becomes Section 12 (formerly Section 13)
  - *Community relations* becomes Section 13 (formerly Section 3)
- Use of the term 'Biohazardous Waste' has been introduced to better reflect sources of waste other than those from healthcare settings. **To avoid confusion, however, in this edition of the Code of Practice the term 'Clinical and Related Waste' continues to be used.**
- Definition of clinical and related waste has been updated with additional inclusions h, l and k in Section 2 and an expanded list of examples of generators to include forensic (crime and trauma scenes). **As in previous editions, readers are instructed to refer to the relevant definition of Clinical and Related Waste as specified in each jurisdiction to ensure compliance with any applicable legislation.**
- Change of terminology from 'Signatories' to 'BWI members' in Section 1.1 and throughout Code on advice that this better reflects the fact that compliance with the Code cannot be legally enforced, which the term 'Signatory' implies.
- Changes to some Clauses for sharps containers:
  - 6.2.5 (formerly 7.2.5) and 6.2.8 (formerly 7.2.8) re-worded so that compliance with the named Standards is a minimum requirement but is no longer the sole mandatory requirement.
  - Former clauses 7.3.3 and 7.3.4 deleted because these clauses were seen to be redundant as they were duplications of sections from the Aust/NZ Standards that are cited throughout the Code as minimum requirements.
- Removal of references to Electro Thermal Deactivation treatment as this technology is no longer used in Australia or New Zealand.