

Destruction

Before disposing of Schedule 2, 3 and 4 (part 1) CDs, including spillages and breakages, they must be denatured so as to make them unrecoverable.

Stock Schedule 2 CDs must be denatured in the presence of an **Authorised Witness**.

Stock Schedule 3 and 4 (part 1) CDs and CDs returned by patients can be denatured in the presence of a witness from the practice.

The destruction and disposal of CDs are subject to the **Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994** and the **Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2005**. Destruction of CDs requires an exemption to the licence, a **T28 exemption**. The exemption needs to be **registered with the Environment Agency** <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/register-your-waste-exemptions-environmental-permits>

To request a visit from an authorised witness, please visit <https://www.cdreporting.co.uk/>

Ensure you have allocated sufficient time to complete the task **uninterrupted**. Prepare a clean and clear work space, and work in an orderly fashion. Always read instructions on DOOP® container before you start.

For Schedule 2 CDs, count and record quantity of items being destroyed in the controlled drug register or patient returns register. For S3 or S4 p1 CDs, it is good practice to count and record the quantity of items being destroyed, this could be in the patients returns register or a bound notebook.

Ensure each drug is destroyed separately and each task is completed (including register entries) before moving on to the next.

When all items have been added to the DOOP® container, add water to the level indicated on the container, seal and shake until the mixture has become solid. Where instructions indicate to fill container to capacity with water, fill to the brim – the gel shrinks when in solidifies. Alternatively, where instructions indicate, do not fill above the maximum fill line.

Following instructions on the container either place DOOP® container in the yellow pharmaceutical waste bin or return to the CD cupboard for stated length of time.

For larger volumes of liquid, denaturing kits are available up to 2L capacity.

Methods of Destruction

Tablets and capsules

Remove from blister packaging and add directly to the DOOP® container.

If kit instructions require **tablets to be crushed, or capsules opened**, care must be taken to ensure **particles of drug “dust” are not released into the air**. The use of a small volume of water while crushing may assist. A face mask should be worn and the area well ventilated.

Check blister packaging is empty before discarding.

Fentanyl lozenges

Remove applicator (hold lozenge, twist applicator) and place broken lozenge directly into the DOOP® container.

Transdermal patches (e.g. fentanyl or buprenorphine)

Remove patches from sealed pouch and remove backing.

Fold patch back on its self so that the adhesive surfaces stick together.

Place directly into the DOOP® container.

Ampoules containing powder (wear gloves)

Open the ampoule by snapping the top along the scored line.

Add water to ampoule, using needle and syringe, to dissolve the powder.

Draw up the resulting solution using needle and syringe and add to a DOOP® container.

Dispose of the ampoule in the sharps bin.

Ampoules containing liquid (wear gloves)

Draw up liquid using needle and syringe and add to a DOOP® container.

Dispose of the ampoule in the sharps bin .

Liquid dose formulations (add last)

Measure the quantity accurately in a measuring cylinder, or conical flask if cylinder not available.

Record quantity being destroyed in the CD register.

Add the liquid directly to the DOOP® container.

Add rinsings to the DOOP® container.

Liquid CDs **should not** be used to make up the volume of DOOP® container in place of water.

Aerosol formulations e.g. Sativex® (wear a face mask)

Expel the aerosol in to a bowl of water to prevent droplets entering the air.

Put the resulting solution in to a DOOP® container.

Make sure you are familiar with the practice needle stick / sharps injury policy and know first aid required in the event of an accident.