Disposal of X-ray Equipment

Manitoba Regulation 341/88R, Safety Regulation of the Public Heath Act.[Regulation Registration 12(4)] requires the owner of x-ray equipment to notify the Radiation Protection Department at CancerCare Manitoba of the removal and disposal of x-ray equipment.

To ensure equipment is not operated after disposal, it should be made inoperable before disposing. The cables that power the equipment and other electrical connections should be detached.

When x-ray equipment is to be removed from service an assessment must be made to determine if any of the equipment components contain hazardous materials. For example the X-ray tube head may contain oil that has polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) also known as chlorobiphenyls. This is a known carcinogen. If the tube, transformer and capacitors were manufactured before 1979 you must have them tested for PCB content. To identify PCBs an analysis of the oil should be done, doing so will ensure the oil is correctly handled and is disposed in a responsible manner.

In addition the x-ray tube housing is lead encased and is considered as hazardous waste according to the Toxic Substances List of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act. www.ec.gc.ca Home > Acts & Regulations > CEPA Environmental Registry > Substances Lists > Toxic Substances List.

A directory list of recycling markets to aid in disposal of the above mentioned components may be found in the yellow pages of your telephone directory under ‘Scrap Metals’.

The electronic components of the control console and ancillary equipment contain materials which must be disposed of at an approved e-waste depot. Information regarding current disposal sites may be found at Province of Manitoba web site Green Manitoba, www.greenmanitoba.ca. > Programs.

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