

## 15. DOCTORS SURGERY & MEDICAL CENTRE

### Preface

Liquid waste generated by industry, small business and commercial enterprises is referred to as trade waste. The Water Supply (Safety & Reliability) Act 2008 prohibits the unauthorised discharge of wastes, other than domestic sewage, into the sewerage system.

1. The definition of trade waste is;
  - *The waterborne waste from business, trade or manufacturing property, other than:*
    - *Waste that is a prohibited substance; or*
    - *Human waste; or*
    - *Stormwater.*
2. The definition of Domestic waste is;
  - *Faecal matter and urine of human origin and liquid household wastes from water closet pans, sinks, baths, basins and similar fixtures designed for use in private dwellings*

### Description of activity

A doctor's surgery is limited to a stand-alone doctor's practice or located within a medical centre which involves the application of plaster casts to patients and does not conduct X-ray procedures.

The activity does not include doctor's premises located within a medical complex, if more than four (4) trade waste streams are generated from such a complex, a hospital or teaching facility.

### Disposal of solid waste

Solid wastes such as hypodermic needles, syringes, instruments, utensils, swabs, dressings, bandages, paper and plastic items of a disposable nature, or human tissues must not be discharged to the sewerage system. Such wastes are to be disposed of in accordance with the relevant authorities which advise on the safe handling, storage and disposal of clinical, cytotoxic, pharmaceutical and chemical wastes.

### Pre-treatment requirements

Plaster traps must be provided under all sinks used for the discharge of plaster bearing waste. Plaster traps should be cleaned daily. Homemade settling bowls in sinks before plaster traps can be useful for retaining plaster, but are not sufficient on their own.