

On identification of a faulty/blocked macerator:**All Clinical and Estates staff must wear the following PPE:**

- Thumb looped full body apron
- Disposable nitrile gloves
- Full face visor OR face mask and goggles

All PPE must be removed on completion of task and disposed of as clinical waste. Wash and dry hands on removal of PPE.

Nurse in Charge must:

- Attach an '**Out of Use**' sign on the lid of the macerator as soon as a problem is identified. (page 3 of SOP)
- Contact Estates help desk via **ext 33333** to report fault as soon as possible. (In an emergency out-with hours contact on-call Estates personnel via switchboard)
- Record works reference number in the maintenance log book and on the 'Out of use' notice on macerator.
- **ISOLATE the macerator** - turn off electricity and water supplies
- Solidify the contents of all maceratable products (e.g. bed pan liners, urine bottles, vomit bowls) with gel crystal until the macerator is repaired. These items must then be double bagged as clinical waste.
- **DO NOT PUT GEL PRODUCT IN THE MACERATOR AT ANY TIME.**
- Request additional clinical waste uplift
- Remind clinical staff that **if they continue to load the macerator after it has been reported**, they are responsible for emptying it of all content to allow Estates team access for repair
- **Highlight the issue daily at site Safety Briefing Huddle until macerator is repaired**
- Alert Clinical Nurse Manager, Associate Nurse Director and seek advice from IPC Nurses if the macerator is still broken 48 hours after being reported.
- Remove the 'Out of Use' sign and dispose of into clinical waste once macerator repaired, and
- Record that the repair has been completed in the clinical area maintenance log book

NHS Lothian Estates staff must:

- Prioritise the repair of faulty macerators including out of hours requests
- If requested attend clinical areas to isolate supplies to the macerator and make safe
- Follow Estates SOP and repair macerator **or** contact service company to attend and repair
- Ensure tasks are risk assessed and control measures adhered to
- Wear PPE as listed above and then remove any solid products that are **above blade level** double bag and dispose of as Clinical waste
- Remove any pulped/semi pulped waste using a plastic scoop – dispose of all product and scoop as clinical waste
- Advise the nurse in charge on completion of the job request or any delays, and
- If the fault cannot be rectified within 48 hours, provide alternative unit

This macerator is out of order

**Do not put any products
into the macerator or
attempt to use**

Date reported to Estates	
Works reference number	