



ICCM Recycling of Pacemakers Scheme

The ICCM, together with Orthometals, has expanded their Metals Recycling Scheme to include pacemakers. Under the scheme, funeral directors will be able to take pacemakers that have been removed prior to cremation to their local participating crematorium and place them in special bins provided by Orthometals. Orthometals will collect the bins alongside the other metals bins during their routine collections. The scheme has been trialled at Mortlake Crematorium, where it has proven to be popular with local funeral directors.

After collection, Orthometals will sort and test the pacemakers – those that are suitable will be donated to a pacemaker charity for use in developing countries. It is anticipated that the number of pacemakers suitable for donation will be low, and that most will be recycled. There is very little value in an individual pacemaker, but in larger numbers there is some scrap metal value. As with the metals scheme, any surplus will be distributed to bereavement related charities nominated by the participating crematoria, thus increasing the amount donated.

Pacemaker bins have already been delivered to some crematoria; if you haven't yet received one please contact Orthometals.

Once you have a bin in place, you can inform local funeral directors that you are now able to receive pacemakers. Funeral directors should be advised to follow the steps below:

Pacemaker Decontamination Process

Following removal of a pacemaker you should:

1. Wash the device thoroughly with warm water and soap.
2. Rinse and wipe down with a quality quaternary ammonium disinfectant or Sodium peroxide disinfectant (Accord® solution, Lysol etc.).
3. Place in a sealed bag labelled with the funeral director company name ready for delivery to the local participating crematorium.
4. Take the labelled bag containing pacemakers to the local participating crematorium and place them in the pacemaker recycling box, as directed by the crematorium staff.

Some of the pacemakers can make a beeping sound as the batteries wear down. You may therefore wish to consider carefully where you will store the recycling box.

For further information please contact:



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