



# Contact lenses: **SEE GREEN**

Contact lenses are invaluable visual correction devices that are a normal part of our daily life and replacing them once their useful life is complete is essential to ensuring the continued health and well-being of our eyes.

It is important to know how to dispose of them properly, and in a way which respects the environment.

Here are some simple rules for disposing of contact lenses and their packaging in order to use the right waste bin. Let's take a look at the composition of the individual elements of our contact lenses, their packaging and the proper way to dispose of them.



### CARTON

**OUTER PACKAGING:** In most cases this is made of cardboard which is commonly recyclable and can be placed in the **PAPER / CARTON** collection bin.

#### PLASTIC

**BLISTER PACK:** This consists of a 'bowl-shaped piece' (bottom part) made of plastic that should be thrown into the **PLASTICS** recycle bin. The top foil usually contains aluminium. **Refer to your local municipality's regulations**, as some municipalities **collect aluminium** separately, some together with **glass** waste, whereas others dispose of it along with **PLASTIC**.

### CASES AND BOTTLES\*

**CONTACT LENS CARE CASES, BOTTLES AND SOLUTIONS:** To avoid increasing bacterial contamination of the case it is a good idea to **replace it every month**.

Usually the **contact lens case** or **care products bottle** can be disposed of in the **PLASTICS** recycle bin, although some municipalities may recycle it separately.



### **NON-RECYCLABLE / DRY WASTE**

#### **CONTACT LENSES**

These may contain some materials that are not biodegradable. Therefore, they should NEVER be disposed of in household drains such as the toilet or the sink, but should be placed in the NON-RECYCLABLE / DRY WASTE bin.

The storage liquid inside the blister pack can be poured into the sink or toilet.



## **SOLUTIONS / LIQUIDS**

The **contact lens cleaning, disinfection and storage solution** should never be reused but replaced daily. It can be poured down the **sink or toilet**.

Please visit your Eye Care Professionals to see if they offer a recycling programme!

\* Not used by wearers of daily disposable contact lenses