

# BIOHAZARDOUS/MEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

**MAY 2015** 

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# **Purpose**

The purpose of the California State University, Dominguez Hills Biohazardous Medical Waste Management Plan is to set forth guidelines to follow in managing these types of waste streams when generated from campus activities.

# **Regulatory Reference**

California Health and Safety Codes §117600-118320 provide the regulatory framework under which this waste management plan is based on. It is the intent of the plan to meet and/or exceed these regulatory provisions.

### **Definitions**

Biohazardous/Medical Waste means any of the following:

- a. Laboratory waste, including, but not limited to, all of the following:
  - Human or animal specimen cultures from medical and pathology laboratories.
  - Cultures and stocks of infectious agents from research and industrial laboratories.
  - Wastes from the production of bacteria, viruses, spores, discarded live and attenuated vaccines used in human health care or research, discarded animal vaccines, including Brucellosis and Contagious Ecthyma, as identified by the department, and culture dishes and devices used to transfer, inoculate, and mix cultures.
- b. Human surgery specimens or tissues removed at surgery or autopsy, which are suspected by the attending physician and surgeon or dentist of being contaminated with infectious agents known to be contagious to humans.
- c. Animal parts, tissues, fluids, or carcasses suspected by the attending veterinarian of being contaminated with infectious agents known to be contagious to humans.
- d. Waste, which at the point of transport from the generator's site, at the point of disposal, or thereafter, contains recognizable fluid blood, fluid blood products, containers or equipment containing blood that is fluid, or blood from animals known to be infected with diseases which are highly communicable to humans.
- e. Waste containing discarded materials contaminated with excretion, exudate, or secretions from humans or animals that are required to be isolated by the infection control staff, the attending physician and surgeon, the attending veterinarian, or the local health officer, to protect others from highly communicable diseases or diseases of animals that are highly communicable to humans

"Biohazard bag" or "Red Bag" means a disposable red bag that is impervious to moisture and has strength sufficient to preclude ripping, tearing, or bursting under normal conditions of usage and handling of the waste-filled bag. A biohazard bag shall be constructed of material of sufficient single thickness strength to pass the 165-gram dropped dart impact resistance test as prescribed by Standard.

### **Waste Generation Points**

Biohazardous /medical waste is generated through activities at the following campus locations: Student Health Center, Biology Department, and Athletics. These areas have established generic practices for waste accumulation, segregation and collection. Approximately 175 pounds per month of biohazardous/ medical waste is generated on campus.

### Student Health Center

Biohazardous/medical wastes are generated through patient care and clinical laboratory activities conducted during normal business hours. The bulk of this waste stream contains sharps and associated sharps materials. Additionally, articles contaminated with blood and bodily fluids will be generated as Red Bag waste. Wastes meeting the definition provided above are segregated and placed into designated receptacles outfitted with biohazard bags, located in the laboratory, patient care and exam rooms. Wastes in these receptacles will be collected daily and stored in the large drums at Biohazardous Waste Storage Area in the Student Health Center. Contents in the large drums will be relocated to the adjacent freezer weekly.

Sharps containers will be collected when two-thirds full, shut and sealed with tape then stored in Biohazardous /Medical Waste Storage Area freezer.

## **Biology**

Biohazardous/medical wastes such as pathology waste, red bag waste and sharps are generated through biological and clinical science laboratory activities. Rigid, labeled receptacles are located throughout these laboratories and containers designated for non-sharps containing waste are lined with biohazard bags. Non-sharps wastes from these receptacles are to be double bagged, collected weekly and placed into the freezer in NSM B154. Sharps waste containers are completely sealed, collected weekly and also placed into NSM B154 freezer. This freezer is to receive only biohazardous waste and is identified as such.

### **Athletics**

Athletics trainers treat sports related injuries on the field as well as their facility located within the gymnasium. Contaminated items from injury treatment are collected and stored using the methods prescribed above in GYM C-108, the Athletics Training Office.

### Trauma Care in the Field

University Police provide initial response to on campus medical emergencies. Throughout the course of these responses, biohazardous material may be generated as Red Bag waste. University Police is to deliver any articles contaminated with blood or bodily fluids to the Biohazardous/medical waste storage area in the Student Health Center.

# **Biohazardous Waste Storage**

All biohazardous waste will be collected and stored in the biohazardous waste storage areas mentioned above until transported by Stericycle. Waste shall not be stored greater than 30 days in the freezer. All biohazardous waste shall be stored, handled or transported in containers that are rigid, leak resistant, properly labeled containers with tight fitting covers that are kept clean and in good repair. It is <u>not</u> acceptable to hand carry waste bags. These areas shall be marked with the following:

English:

"Caution – Biohazardous Waste Storage Area Unauthorized Persons Keep Out"

Spanish:

"Cuidado – Zona de Residuos Biologicos Peligrosos Prohiba La Entrada a Personas No Autorizadas"

Wastes shall not be stored for more than seven days in temperatures exceeding 32° F. This seven-day period begins once the waste is placed into its designated accumulation receptacle.

All reusable rigid receptacles used for accumulation, transportation and storage of biohazardous waste shall be washed and decontaminated after a maximum of seven days or less if visibly soiled. The approved method for decontamination is the use of an EPA registered disinfecting agent, following dilution and application suggestions for rigid surfaces provided by the manufacturer.

# **Biohazardous Waste Disposal**

All biohazardous waste will be picked up by Thermal Combustion Innovators (TCI) on a monthly basis, or more frequent if needed, and transported to their local treatment facility. Records of pick-ups, daily activity supporting statements will be kept at the Office of Risk Management/EHOS.

# **Emergency Action Plan**

While it is highly unlikely that TCI would experience a business shut down, freezer capacity at the university can foreseeably maintain wastes generated through normal campus operations in the event of such a shut down. If it is determined that current capacity will be insufficient, an alternative hauler will be retained.

# **Waste Hauler/Treatment**

Biohazardous waste hauling and treatment are provided by:

### **Primary Hauler:**

Thermal Combustion Innovators 241 West laurel Street Colton, CA 92323 (909) 370-0730

### **Alternative Hauler:**

Sanitec Industries, Inc. 10700 Sherman Way Burbank, CA 91505 (818) 523-1942

# **Signature and Authority**

I declare under penalty of law that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the statements provided herein are correct and true.

Name (Print): Orson Faynor Title: Safety and Environmental Health Specialist

Date: May 7, 2015