

Hazardous Waste Management and Disposal PC.H05

Regulation(s):	OSHA 1910.1030(d)(4)(iii)(c)
L-Tag(s):	None

POLICY: Hazardous waste is segregated, handled, labeled, stored and disposed of in accordance with local, State and Federal regulations.

DEFINITION:

Regulated Waste means liquid or semi-liquid blood or other potentially infectious materials; contaminated items that would release blood or other potentially infectious materials in a liquid or semi-liquid state if compressed; items that are caked with dried blood or other potentially infectious materials and are capable of releasing these materials during handling; contaminated sharps; and pathological and microbiological wastes containing blood or other potentially infectious materials.

PROCEDURE:

Contaminated Sharps Discarding and Containment

1. Contaminated sharps must be discarded immediately or as soon as feasible in containers that are:
 - a. closable;
 - b. puncture resistant;
 - c. leak proof on sides and bottom; and
 - d. labeled or color-coded as required.

2. During use, containers for contaminated sharps must be:
 - a. easily accessible to personnel and located as close as is feasible to the immediate area where sharps are used or can be reasonably anticipated to be found;
 - b. maintained upright throughout use; and
 - c. replaced routinely and not be allowed to overfill.

3. When moving containers of contaminated sharps from the area of use, the containers must be:
 - a. closed immediately prior to removal or replacement to prevent spillage or protrusion of contents during handling, storage, transport, or shipping; and
 - b. placed in a secondary container if leakage is possible that is properly labeled or color-coded, closable and constructed to contain all contents and prevent leakage during handling, storage, transport, or shipping.

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6/18	2/19		4/2019
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Reusable containers may not be opened, emptied, or cleaned manually or in any other manner that would expose employees to the risk of percutaneous injury.

Other Regulated Waste Containment

1. Regulated waste shall be placed in containers which are:
 - a. closable;
 - b. constructed to contain all contents and prevent leakage of fluids during handling, storage, transport or shipping;
 - c. labeled or color-coded as required; and
 - d. closed prior to removal to prevent spillage or protrusion of contents during handling, storage, transport, or shipping.
2. If outside contamination of the regulated waste container occurs, it is placed in a second container that is closable, constructed as above and properly labeled.

Disposal of all Regulated Hazardous Waste

The hospice follows applicable State and Federal regulations for the disposal of all regulated waste.

<http://www.envcap.org/statetools/rmw/pa-rmw.html>

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