

Chemically Treating Solid Biohazardous Waste that May Puncture the Skin

Standard Operating Procedure

Revision Date: 8/16/23

Use this procedure for solid biohazardous waste that may puncture the skin.

NOTE: Use this procedure only when this waste stream cannot be treated using the autoclave.

NOTE: This waste stream **must** be treated within 60 days of the accumulation start date.

Examples of this Waste Stream



- Pipettes
- Petri dishes
- Culture flasks
- Slides
- Bottles

When NOT to Use this Procedure

If the solid biohazardous waste is biohazardous sharps waste, then follow the procedure [Preparing Biohazardous Sharps Waste for Collection](#).

Containers

The following containers are needed when chemically treating this waste stream:

- Containers to hold the waste while it is being chemically treated
- Cardboard box to dispose treated solid waste

Disinfectants



Use one of the following disinfectants to chemically treat this waste stream:

- 1:10 dilution of household bleach (contains 5% sodium or calcium hypochlorite) to water.
- Suitable commercial disinfectant for the agent in use.

NOTE: Departments are responsible for purchasing the bleach or chemical disinfectants.

Supplies Available through Environment, Health & Safety

Environment, Health & Safety provides the following supplies:

SUPPLY	DESCRIPTION	CALL OR EMAIL FOR SUPPLIES
	The "BIOHAZARD" symbol must be on the waste containers.	(734) 763-4568
	This waste stream must be labeled as "UNCONTAMINATED GLASS AND PLASTICS" prior to disposal as normal trash.	(734) 763-4568 or complete the online Waste and Supply form

Procedure: Chemically Treating Solid Biohazardous Waste that May Puncture the Skin

- Treat the waste in disinfectant using one of the following methods:
 - 1:10 dilution of household bleach for at least 30 minutes
 - Commercial disinfectant following manufacturer's instructions for appropriate concentration and contact time.
- Pour disinfectant down the sanitary drain.
- Package the disinfected solid waste in a cardboard box.
- Put the Uncontaminated Glass and Plastics label on the outside of the cardboard box.

NOTE: If you do not have a label, then write on the outside of the box "Uncontaminated glass and plastic."
- Does Custodial Services dispose of the box?
 - If YES, then put the box in the designated area of the lab for collection.
 - If NO, then put the box in the dumpster.