Chemically Treating Solid Biohazardous Waste that May Puncture the Skin

Standard Operating Procedure

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUPPLY</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>CALL OR EMAIL FOR SUPPLIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>![Biohazard Symbol]</td>
<td>The &quot;BIOHAZARD&quot; symbol <strong>must</strong> be on the waste containers.</td>
<td>(734) 647-1143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![Uncontaminated Glass and Plastics]</td>
<td>This waste stream <strong>must</strong> be labeled as “UNCONTAMINATED GLASS AND PLASTICS” prior to disposal as normal trash.</td>
<td>(734) 763-4568 or complete the online Waste and Supply form</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

1. 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.
2. Pour disinfectant down the sanitary drain.
3. Package the disinfected solid waste in a cardboard box.
4. 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.”
5. Does Building 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.