**BSSF Medical Waste Disposal Guidelines**

**What is Regulated Medical Waste?**

Regulated Medical Waste (RMW) is material that may be contaminated with blood, bodily fluids, or other infectious materials. RMW may also be referred to as "biohazardous" or "infectious waste". RMW must be properly handled and disposed of in order to minimize the risk of transmitting infection or endangering human health.

Examples:

- Cultures and stock of microorganisms and biologicals
- Human blood and body fluids, and items contaminated with human blood or body fluids
- Tissues and other anatomical wastes
- Sharps (such as needles, syringes with attached needles, suture needles, and scalpels), including sharps generated through veterinary practice
- Animal carcasses and related wastes when animals are intentionally infected
- Mixtures and residues of regulated medical waste (such as from cleanups of RMW spills)
- Solid waste suspected by the health care professional in charge of being capable of producing infectious disease in humans.

**Types of waste accepted for sterilization**

- Bagged Waste
- Glass and Pipettes
- Liquid Waste
- Sharps Waste

*Anatomical Material is sent to a separate facility off-campus*

**Waste Information**

**Bagged Waste**

Contents

- No glass
- No paper towels unless they were contaminated with a biohazard (used to clean up a biohazard spill or otherwise)
- Cannot be more than ¾ full or more than 15 pounds

The generator of the Regulated Medical Waste assumes all responsibility for assuring the autoclave operator, B.S.S.F and personnel that absolutely no hazardous waste, i.e., chemicals, radioactive waste, animal carcasses or Human anatomical material, is contained in the red Biohazard bags submitted for sterilization treatment.
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**Approved Bag**

- **Red polypropylene** bag that is at least 2 mil thick (two bags are required for double-bagging)
  - **No polyethylene.** It cannot handle the cycle we run the medical waste on. There will be issues and it is dangerous.
- Must have the Biohazard label, at least 2" in size.
- Must have the words "Potentially Infectious Material" or "Biohazardous"
- Must have the words "Autoclave Bag"

**Example:**

- Fisherbrand No. 01-828D

The waste must be double bagged and closed with closures, twist ties or rubber bands. **Do not** twist or tie the bag in a knot. Air must be able to pass through the opening of the bag.

Write the generator's/PI's name, building and room number, and the contaminants/agents on the bag with a permanent marker.

**Sterilizing Tray** (labs are responsible for purchasing)

- Thermo Scientific Nalgene Large Polypropylene Sterilizing Pans (Fisher Scientific, Cat. #13-359-20B)
  ---If there is another tray that could be an option, have it approved through BSSF prior to ordering.

**Pipettes and Glass**

**Serological pipettes**

- Serological pipettes must be placed in an approved sterilization tray (examples?), covered in disinfecting liquid, no more than ¾ full, and covered with foil prior to transporting.
- Always put a piece if autoclave indicator tape on the sterilization tray
- We cannot accept serological pipettes in bags for any reason. Make sure they are not included in bagged waste, or the entire bagged waste will be rejected.
- It will be the responsibility of the individual labs to retrieve their trays once they have been sterilized and to dispose of the waste.

**Glass Slides**

- Contaminated slides should be placed in a disinfectant bucket and covered in disinfecting liquid.
- The container opening should be covered in foil and labeled with the generators name, building, and room number
- Always put a piece if autoclave indicator tape on the sterilization tray
- It will be the responsibility of the individual labs to retrieve their disinfectant buckets once they have been sterilized and to dispose of the waste.

**Broken Glass**

- **Contaminated** glass should be placed in a sharps container.
- **Non-contaminated** glass can be placed in cardboard box (bag lined) marked "Broken Glass". The box is to be disposed with normal trash or put into a dumpster.
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**Liquid Waste**

- Container with the opening covered with foil or the cap loosely attached
- Label the container with the agents contained in the waste
- The container holding the waste must be placed into an autoclavable sterilization tray prior to submitting the liquid for autoclaving.
- Always put a piece of autoclave indicator tape on the sterilization tray

**Sharps Waste**

- A rigid, leak-proof, puncture resistant box made of hard red plastic
- Must have a lid that can be securely sealed to keep contents from falling out
- Must be clearly marked with the biohazard symbol on the container
- **Cannot be larger than 14 quarts**
- Must have the generator’s name, room number and building on the container

If the sharps container is broken or missing lid(s), place the entire container into a larger container for sterilization. Do not attempt to tape broken lids or the entire top of container. Empty defective containers should be placed in trash (after removing all labels)

Once sterilized, EHS will be contacted and the sharps will be sent off campus to a contracted vendor.

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**Sterilization Tray information**

We recommend **Thermo Scientific Nalgene Large Polypropylene Sterilizing Pans (Fisher Scientific, Cat. #13-359-20B)**

If there is another tray that could be an option, have it approved through BSSF prior to ordering.

After the waste has been sterilized and disposed of, make sure to retrieve the sterilization tray. Typically, the tray will be ready for retrieval on Thursday.

If the sterilization tray does not have any identifying information on it, it will remain in the autoclave room for future use. Please make sure the PI’s name and room number is visible on the tray.
BSSF Medical Waste Disposal Guidelines

Waste Receiving Schedule

BSSF Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-8am to 2pm</td>
<td>-8am to 2pm</td>
<td><strong>-8am to 10am</strong>&lt;br&gt;-Only medical waste is accepted unless you have prior approval from Mary Hayward&lt;br&gt;-No other waste accepted</td>
<td>-8am to 2pm</td>
<td>-8am to 2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>-Any waste other than medical waste accepted</td>
<td>-Any waste other than medical waste accepted</td>
<td>(Pipettes/Liquid)</td>
<td>(Pipettes/Liquid)</td>
<td>(Pipettes/Liquid)</td>
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Contact Mary Hayward before bringing in any waste, not just RMW. We may receive more waste than can be processed in the allotted time. If that is the case, the overflow waste may need to wait with the generator until the next available time.

How to transport waste

Always transport waste on a cart or in a leakproof bin with a lid

Never hand carry Regulated Medical Waste outside of the labs without leakproof containment

Waste must be in the approved sterilization containers before transportation