

**College of Health Sciences**  
**School of Medical Diagnostics and Translational Sciences**  
**Regulated Medical Waste Guidelines**

**Regulated Medical Waste**

1. All regulated medical waste from our education labs will be placed in **Red** Biohazardous waste bags which are inside red trash containers marked Biohazardous Waste.
2. The waste inside the Red Biohazardous Waste bags come from our Microbiology, Hematology, Hemostasis, Blood Bank, Immunology, Biochemistry, Instrumentation, Parasitology & Mycology, and Molecular Labs.
3. The RED bags when ready, no more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  full, will be transported to room 2102 for sterilizing.
4. These bags will be sterilized the day they are taken to this room.
5. The bags are put in trays and numbered, and autoclave tape is applied.
6. The cycle is for 90 minutes.
7. Once this is complete, the red bag is placed in an orange bag and labeled "This material is not infectious". The number of bag, date of sterilization, and person doing autoclaving initials.
8. Orange bag is placed at door for housekeeping to pick up.

**Waste**

1. Blood
2. Sputum
3. Urine
4. Media Plates
5. Media Tubes
6. Stool
7. Test Cards
8. Test Tubes

**Glass**

1. Glass with Regulated Medical Waste is sterilized in Autoclave for 90 minutes.
2. Liquid waste is dumped, and glass cleaned.
3. Glass is then put in broken glass boxes for disposal in regular trash or recycling.
4. Glass slides and tubes placed in sharps containers will be sterilized and put in glass box.

**Sharps**

1. Sharps includes needles, butterflies, catheters, capillary tubes, and equipment with blades or cutting apparatus.

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2. These are placed in designated sharps containers with lids.
3. Once the container is  $\frac{3}{4}$  full, the lid is closed.
4. The Environmental Health & Safety Office is called for pick up.
5. Containers for sharps can be small or large but should not exceed 14-quart size.

**Times for Sterilization**

1. Red bag trash can be run any day.
2. Remember this is a 90-minute cycle plus time to blow down pressure.
3. Please remember other things that maybe going on such as media and glass sterilization for labs. These cycles could be 15 or 45 minute long.
4. PMs, done by Auxomedical, will be done when there is nothing else to be done.

**QC**

1. Prospore Ampoules will be run once a month to make sure the autoclave is killing what it needs to be.
2. The biological indicator is *Geobacillus stearothermophilis* spores.