

MEDICAL WASTE– USED & CONTAMINATED

POSSIBLE CONTAMINANTS OF CONCERN

This type of waste includes items that are contaminated with bodily fluids or may have come into contact with other biohazards and may include:

- Used needles
- Used gauze, tubing
- Materials grossly contaminated with blood and bodily fluids
- Used rapid response testing kits

Additional items of concern would include pharmaceuticals, chemicals, radioactive materials and heavy metals that are used in the medical setting. These items should be packaged separately from the items listed above. Fully disclose contents when turning in materials.

CHARACTERIZATION

Only trained individuals should handle. Sharps, blood, infectious and items contaminated with bodily fluids are considered to be infectious waste. If the waste contains pharmaceuticals, chemicals, radioactive materials or heavy metals then the material will need further characterization.

CONTAINER MARKING/LABELING AND HANDLING PROCEDURES

1. Wear proper PPE for the type of material handled. Bags and boxes that are labeled can be obtained from USPFO. Biohazard bag NSN is 6530-01-107-5798. Infectious waste must be packaged separately from other medical materials including pharmaceuticals, chemicals, radioactive materials and heavy metals, if possible. Disclose all contents using DA3161.
2. Used and unused sharps must be in a closed sharps container. Sharp container NSN 6530-01267-2545 may be used. Other used and contaminated materials must be in a closed biohazard bag or non leaking container marked with biohazard label.
3. Unit staff can store Medical Waste while arranging pickup by USPFO Warehouse in a manner that does not produce odors and attract insects/vermin. Complete container log and mark each container of medical waste to match the container log. Use naming convention MW-unit name--##, see AGO PAM 200-1, chapter 5 for marking and labeling containers properly.
4. USPFO staff trained in hazardous, medical and radioactive waste characterization evaluates disclosed material listing for items that may be considered a hazardous waste. Contact the Hazardous Waste Manager or Radiation Safety Manager, if items of concern are present to assist with waste characterization.
5. A copy of the pickup documentation (manifest) is left with the POC at pickup location. Send a scan or hardcopy to the Environmental Office Hazardous Waste Manager.



TURN-IN PROCEDURES

1. Unit level – Contact USPFO Warehouse for turn-in of labeled/ marked infectious medical waste containers. Complete DA 3161 for drugs including NDC Lot # and expiration date. Only vehicles registered for medical infectious waste by Ohio EPA may transport infectious medical waste. No other waste type can be transported in the same shipment. FMS staff cannot accept infectious medical waste.
2. USPFO Warehouse staff will characterize all waste types received and properly package materials for shipment. The container log used for each container will serve as a record of waste generated monthly. Trained staff will prepare all medical waste for shipments to outside vendors.