



Biohazardous Waste Disposal Guidelines

This document describes the proper waste management procedures for research laboratories working with sharps, solid, liquid, animal, and pathological waste **contaminated or in contact with infectious, potentially infectious, or genetically modified materials**. Waste disposed of in biohazard waste accumulation sites will be collected by EH&S-EMF for final off-site treatment/incineration/disposal through a biowaste vendor.

Note: Biohazard Waste from BSL-3 or ABSL-2 facilities may require additional steps. Refer to the BSL-3 Safety Manual and the Vivarium Safety Officer for specific waste procedures.

| | Sharps Waste | Solid Waste | Liquid Waste | Animal Waste (vertebrate) | Pathological Waste |
|------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| Examples | Needles, syringes (with or without needles), tubing with needles, blades, Pasteur pipettes, and all contaminated glassware. | Plastic pipettes, pipette tips, petri dishes, culture flasks, absorbent materials, closed tubes with liquid [†] , biohazardous animal bedding, euthanized invertebrates, and gloves. | Liquid biohazardous cultures or specimens, liquids containing recombinant or synthetic nucleic acids. | Animals and animal body parts for animals that are potentially infectious, biohazardous, transgenic, genetically modified (ex. bacteria, viral vector). | NOT RECOGNIZABLE: Human anatomical specimens, body parts, or organs. |
| Container | Sharps container. Do not recap or bend needles. | Place two red biohazard bags in a secondary container. Note: Small tabletop red bags must be placed in larger ASTM marked red bags for disposal. | Collect liquid waste in a flask with a stopper. Store flask in a container capable of holding entire volume of flask if outside of biosafety cabinet. | Place carcass in a clear colorless bag. Transfer to red pathological waste container with a red bag liner and tight-fitting lid. | Place not recognizable tissue in a clear colorless bag. Transfer to red pathological waste container with a red bag liner and tight-fitting lid. |
| Storage | Dispose of closed containers within 7 days. | Dispose of biohazardous waste within 7 days of accumulation. | Maximum storage time is 7 days. | Store in refrigerator or freezer. Maximum storage time is 7 days. | Store in refrigerator or freezer. Maximum storage time is 7 days. |
| Labeling* | Affix your campus address label. | Affix biohazard symbol on lid & sides of secondary container. Affix your campus address label, on the red bags. | <u>Label flask</u> identifying media waste and disinfectant. Ex: Tissue Culture Media Disinfected with Bleach (1 bleach : 9 water) with 30 minute contact time | Affix "Pathology Waste" or "PATH" on lid & sides of pathology waste container. Affix your campus address label, IACUC protocol #, Species, date, and PI Name on the red bags. | Affix "Pathology Waste" or "PATH" on lid & sides of pathology waste container. Affix your campus address label on the red bags. |
| Treatment | Off-site treatment. | Off-site treatment. | Treat with household bleach (1 bleach : 9 water) with 30 minute contact time For other disinfectants/treatment methods, contact ehsbio@ucsd.edu for SOP. | Off-site incineration. | Off-site incineration. |
| Disposal | Close and seal with tape when ready for disposal. Transfer container into large secondary containers in waste accumulation site. | Tape bag neck closed. Transfer red bag into large secondary containers in waste accumulation site. | Pour liquids (treated with bleach for 30 minutes) down laboratory sink using appropriate personal protective equipment. Rinse sink with water. | Tie bag closed. Transfer into red pathological waste container at ACP collection sites [See Dispose of Animal Carcass PDF] | Tie bag closed. Transfer into red pathological waste container with biohazard symbol in freezer located in waste accumulation site. |

Biohazard Waste Bags: Bags must be red in color, marked with international biohazard symbol, and outer bag must have ASTM D1922 marking, ASTM D1709 marking, and a generator address label.

Secondary Containers: Container must be rigid, leak resistant, have tight fitting lid, and labels on lid and all lateral sides with "Biohazard Waste" or biohazard symbol & "Biohazard" wording.

***Closed Tubes with Liquid:** Tube size must be 15mL or smaller, and contain ≤15mL of liquid. Liquid in tubes larger than 15mL in size must be treated as liquid biohazard waste.

Sharps Container: Container must be leak-proof, rigid, and puncture resistant with FDA approved manufacturer marking.

Recognizable Human Pathology Waste: Recognizable body part/organs requires special disposal and pick-up. Please contact SOM Anatomical Services at (858) 534-8280 anatomicalservices@ucsd.edu for requirements.

***ADDRESS LABELS:** Main Campus UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive La Jolla, CA 92093 (858) 534-4357 Bldg. _____ Rm.# _____ [[Printable PDF Campus Labels](#)]
Hillcrest UCSD Medical Center, 200 W. Arbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92103 (619) 543-6222 Bldg. _____ Rm.# _____ [[Printable PDF Hillcrest Labels](#)]

MIXED WASTE: To dispose mixed waste (i.e., mixture of biohazardous and chemical or radioactive waste) contact ehsbio@ucsd.edu.

For questions on waste accumulation sites, contact EMF at (858) 534-2753.