



MEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE

San Francisco State University

Introduction

Medical waste in California is subject to the requirements of the Medical Waste Management Act, found in the Health & Safety Code, Sections 117600 – 118360.

Medical waste includes biohazardous waste and sharps contaminated with biohazardous waste.

Example of biohazardous waste include:

- Laboratory wastes (human, animal specimens from research laboratories)
- Waste containing recognizable fluid blood, fluid blood products, containers or equipment containing fluid blood, or blood from animals known to be infected with highly communicable diseases.
- Chemotherapeutic agents
- Pharmaceutical waste

Sharps wastes include:

- Used hypodermic needles
- Used hypodermic needles with syringes
- Blades, broken pipettes/blood vials contaminated with biohazardous waste

Medical Waste Generation at SFSU

SFSU is as large quantity generator (LQG) of medical waste, and is required to have a permit, currently posted at the Student Health Center in a glass case at the entrance. EHS coordinates the annual renewal of the permit and maintains a copy on file.

Medical waste is generated at 3 locations at SFSU:

- College of Science & Engineering (COSE)
- Clinical Laboratory Science Program
- Student Health Center

Other locations, such as UPD or Burk Hall, which may generate sharps waste occasionally either transfer their full sharps containers to the Student Health Center, or contact the Environmental Compliance Manager for assistance.

Medical Waste Management Procedures

Medical waste is placed into red-bag lined biohazardous waste containers, labeled with the biohazardous waste symbol.

Biohazardous waste containers must be located in a secured area to prevent access by unauthorized personnel.

LQGs may not store biohazardous waste above 32 degrees F for more than 7 days without prior approval.

To comply with this requirement, biohazardous wastes are picked up **weekly** from each location by SFSU's medical waste contractor, Biologic Environmental Services and Waste Solutions, 23490 Connecticut St., in Hayward, California. Phone: (510) 265-1900.

Sharps are placed into a sharps container (labeled with biohazard waste label). Full sharps containers must be disposed of within 30 days. Full sharps containers are placed into biohazardous waste containers, picked up weekly by Biologic.



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Record-keeping

Medical waste manifests are signed by personnel in each group and are retained on file by each group. EHS coordinates payment of medical waste invoices. Copies of manifests, included with the invoices, are maintained on file by the Environmental Compliance Manager.