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AUTHORITY CITATIONS

CCR, Title 22, § 65600-65628
CHSC, Division 104, Part 14, § 117600-118360
CFR, Title 49, Subchapters A and C
Cal-IWMB, Assembly Bill 75-99

PURPOSE

The purpose of this program is to establish procedures for the identification, containment, storage, and disposal of medical waste in accordance with mandates set forth by the State of California. Each facility within the District generates less than 200 pounds of medical waste per month and does not engage in any on-site treatment of medical waste. All medical waste is disposed of through the use of certified medical waste haulers. All personnel that are in contact with medical waste should be familiar with this program in order to protect themselves, students, fellow employees, and the environment. Types of medical waste include blood or bodily fluids, sharps, excrements, chemotherapeutics, and pathology waste.

DEFINITIONS

Biohazard bag: a disposable red bag that is impervious to moisture and has a strength sufficient to preclude ripping, tearing, or bursting under normal conditions of usage and handling of the waste-filled bag.

Biohazardous waste: waste that includes the following: (1) human or animal specimen cultures from medical and pathology laboratories, (2) cultures and stocks of infectious agents from research and industrial laboratories, (3) wastes from the production of bacteria, viruses, spores, discarded live and attenuated vaccines used in human health care or research, discarded animal vaccines, and culture dishes and devices used to transfer, inoculate, and mix cultures, (4) human surgery specimens or tissues removed at surgery or autopsy, and (5) waste containing discarded material contaminated with excretion, exudate, or secretions from humans or animals that are required to be isolated to protect others from highly communicable diseases.

Infectious agent: a type of microorganism, bacteria, mold, parasite, or virus that normally causes or significantly contributes to the cause of increase morbidity or mortality of human beings.

Medical waste: waste which is generated or produced as a result of diagnosis, treatment, or immunization of human beings or animals, research pertaining to the aforementioned activities, production or testing or biologicals (serums, vaccines, antigens, anti-toxins), accumulation of properly contained home-generated sharps waste. Waste can either be defined as biohazardous waste or sharps waste.

Pharmaceutical: a prescription or over-the-counter human or veterinary drug.

Sharps container: a rigid puncture-resistant container than is leak resistant and cannot be reopened without great difficulty.

Sharps waste: any device having acute rigid corners, edges, or protuberances capable of cutting or piercing. The following are examples of sharps: (1) hypodermic needles, needles with syringes, blades, needles with attached tubing, syringes with contaminated biohazardous waste, broken glass and blood vials contaminated with biohazardous waste.

Trauma scene: any location soiled by or contaminated with human blood, human body fluids, or other residues from the scene of a serious human injury, illness, or death.
**Treatment:** any method, technique, or process designed to change the biological character or composition of any medical waste to eliminate its potential for causing disease.

**WASTE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES**

**Containment**
- Persons handling medical waste prior to proper containment must wear appropriate personal protective equipment. The minimum coverage includes gloves, goggles, and a protective garment.
- Medical waste must be segregated from all other waste at the point of origin.
- Biohazard bags must be tied to prevent leakage or removal of contents during all future storage, handling, and transportation.
- All medical waste, with the exception of pharmaceuticals, sharps, pathological, and recognizable human anatomical parts, must be contained and sealed in red bags that are labeled with the international biohazard symbol and the word “BIOHAZARD”. If bagging is not conducive to safe containment of the waste, it may be placed in a rigid, airtight container and labeled as above.
- Sharps waste must be contained in rigid, puncture resistant container that, when sealed, is leak resistant and difficult to open. The container must be labeled with the international biohazard symbol and the word “BIOHAZARD”.
- Pharmaceutical waste must be segregated from all other medical waste and labeled as “Waste Pharmaceuticals” and “INCINERATION ONLY”.
- Pathological waste or recognizable human anatomical parts must be segregated from all other medical waste and contained in red bags that are labeled with the international biohazard symbol, the word “BIOHAZARD”, and identified as human parts or pathological waste. When placed in a secondary container, that container should be labeled with the words “Pathology Waste” or “PATH” on the lid and on all sides.
- The date the waste was identified and properly contained must be recorded on the outside of the bag or container as the accumulation start date. The start date for sharps containers begins when the container is ½ full.
- In addition to the labeling described above, all medical waste should be identified to the best extent possible through descriptions affixed to the outside of the bag or container.
- Non-medical waste must not be labeled with the international biohazard symbol or the word “BIOHAZARD”.
- Grinders, compactors, or trash chutes are not to be used for medical waste.
- Medical waste is not to be removed from its initial containment except to eliminate a safety hazard.
- Medical waste sealed in bags must be placed in rigid containers immediately. Containers identified for the storage of medical waste bags must include the following.
  - Leak resistant
  - Tight fitting covers
  - Kept in good repair
  - Kept clean
  - Labeled on all sides and on the lid with the international biohazard symbol and the word “BIOHAZARD”
- Once identified, labeled, and assigned an accumulation start date, medical waste must be taken to a designated storage area. If the individual is unable to access the storage area, please contact the Environmental Health and Safety Office for assistance.
- Reusable rigid containers must be thoroughly washed and decontaminated unless the surfaces of the container have been completely protected from contamination by disposable liners, bags, or other devices moved with the waste. Approved methods of decontamination include agitation to remove visible soil.
combined with either exposure to hot water of at least 180° F for a minimum of 15 seconds or exposure to chemical sanitizer by rinsing with or immersion in the chemical.

- Reusable pails, drums, dumpsters, or bins used for medical waste may not be used for the containment of non-medical solid waste.

**Storage**
- Medical waste must be collected and stored in a designated biohazardous waste storage area until it is picked up from a certified hauler.
- To reiterate, all biohazardous waste shall be stored, handled and transported in containers that have tight covers and are leak-resistant.
- A warning sign of the biohazardous waste area shall say “CAUTION – BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE STORAGE AREA – UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS KEEP OUT”, and in Spanish “CUIDADO – ZONA DE RESIDUOS BIOLOGICOS – PROHIBIDA LA ENTRADA A PERSONAS NO AUTORIZADAS”.
- The area must also be protected from animals, natural elements, and must not be in a breeding ground or local food source for insects and rodents.
- Storage periods and temperatures include the following.
  - If the person generates 20 or more pounds of biohazardous waste per month, the person shall not contain or store biohazardous or sharps waste above 0 degrees Centigrade (32 degrees Fahrenheit) at any onsite location for more than seven days without obtaining prior written approval of the enforcement agency.
  - If a person generates less than 20 pounds of biohazardous waste per month, the person shall not contain or store biohazardous waste above 0 degrees Centigrade (32 degrees Fahrenheit) at any onsite location for more than 30 days.
  - A person may store biohazardous or sharps waste at or below 0 degrees Centigrade (32 degrees Fahrenheit) at an onsite location for not more than 90 days without obtaining prior written approval of the enforcement agency.
  - A person may store biohazardous or sharps waste at a permitted transfer station at or below 0 degrees Centigrade (32 degrees Fahrenheit) for not more than 30 days without obtaining prior written approval of the enforcement agency.
  - A person shall not store biohazardous or sharps waste above 0 degrees Centigrade (32 degrees Fahrenheit) at any location or facility which is offsite from the generator for more than seven days before treatment.
  - If the odor from biohazardous or sharps waste stored at a facility poses a nuisance, the removal must be expedited.

**Emergency Clean-Up/Decontamination**
- Containers may be decontaminated with exposure to hot water of at least 82 degrees Centigrade (180 degrees Fahrenheit) for a minimum of 15 seconds
- Emergency clean-ups and decontamination via chemical sanitizers include rinsing or immersing with the following for a minimum of three minutes
  - Hypochlorite solution (500 ppm available chlorine)
  - Phenolic solution (500 ppm active agent)
  - Iodoform solution (100 ppm) available iodine
  - Quaternary ammonium solution (400 ppm active agent)

**Treatment**
Medical Waste Management
CCCD.EHS.P.X
All medical waste must be transported off-site to a permitted treatment or transfer facility by a registered waste hauler.

ADMINISTRATION AND RECORDKEEPING

Permitting and registration is not required for Coast Community College District because it is classified as a small quantity producer. Records of quantities and types of medical waste that was collected, transport locations, dates, names registered with the medical waste and tracking documents must be maintained for a period of at least two years.

DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

EH&S Office
The EH&S office will be responsible for implementing, maintaining, and enforcing the procedures/practices within this program in addition to the following.

- Maintain storage facilities
- Coordinate waste pick-ups
- Document any medical waste that requires transport and disposal

Employees
Employees are responsible for understanding and practicing safe medical waste management processes.

PROGRAM NOTES

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APPENDIX A: Hazardous/Medical Waste Pick-Up Form

### Hazardous Waste Pick-up Request

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### HAZARDS (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- CORROSIVE
- TOXIC/POISON
- ELECTRONIC
- FLAMMABLE
- EXPLOSIVE
- OXIDIZER
- BIOHAZARDOUS

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

*If you have any questions regarding this form, please contact Linda Morin (EHS Coordinator) at 714-438-4753 or lmorin@mail.cccd.edu*
APPENDIX B: Authority and Medical Waste Hauler Information

Bree Dewey  
*Orange County, Environmental Health Division, Medical Waste Management Section*  
714-667-3600

Mike Schott  
*State of California, Department of Health Services, Medical Waste Management Program*  
916-327-6901 | 916-327-690426

*Orange County Sanitation District, Industrial Waste Section*  
714-962-2411

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**Medical Waste Hauler**

Catherine Arni  
*BFI*  
Direct: 323-590-3748  
Pick-Ups: 323-263-6400

Stericycle  
Pick-Ups: 909-799-8500