

INFECTIOUS AND CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC WASTE

Infectious and chemotherapeutic waste shall involve any medically related waste products that had contact with human bodily fluids or were used in the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of disease. In addition, this policy applies to any instance requiring the disposal of bodily fluids. It is the intent of this policy to provide the safest possible environment for employees and students in following the mandates of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources and other state/federal requirements.

Only the school nurse, building custodian, and athletic trainer will be directly involved in the disposal of such waste.

Policy: 6.4
Adopted: 5/18/94
Amended:

INFECTIOUS AND CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC WASTE

I. Definition

Infectious and chemotherapeutic waste shall involve any medically related waste products that had contact with human bodily fluids or were used in the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of disease. In addition, this policy applies to any instance requiring the disposal of bodily fluids. It is the intent of this policy to provide the safest possible environment for employees and students in following the mandates of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources and other state/federal requirements.

II. Procedures

- A. Special waste receptacles have been provided to nurses with red infectious waste bags. These bags should be sealed appropriately after use.
- B. Sharp objects (e.g. needles) should be enclosed in a puncture proof container, such as a plastic detergent bottle or coffee can, and sealed (e.g. with tape).
- C. If the circumstance arises where this type of waste exists in a classroom setting or any area where an employee other than a nurse or custodian is present, a custodian should be notified for the removal. The custodial staff has been trained in the procedures required for such removal and disposal. If appropriate personnel are not available, the building principal should be contacted immediately. The principal will then arrange through the Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation to have trained personnel from another building available for cleanup and disposal. The area should be kept clear until such procedures can be implemented.
- D. All employees should have access to rubber latex gloves in each work area. These gloves should be stored in a common location with easy access. The building principal is responsible for the distribution and accessibility of these gloves.
- E. The building nurse is responsible for reviewing these procedures at an annual faculty meeting as a regular update for the building staff.
- F. The special receptacle in the nurse's office should be checked several times per week by custodial staff. When it is full or containing materials which would produce an unpleasant odor, the bag should be removed and taken to a central collection point within that building. If the nurse feels that the bag should be removed sooner, they may contact the Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation to handle the pickup.

- G. Periodically, or whenever necessary, the Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation will see that a member of his staff is assigned to collect these bags and transport them to the high school building where they are stored in a 40-gallon collection drum.
- H. When the 40-gallon drum is full, the Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation will notify the waste hauler. Prior to their picking up the waste, it will be double bagged and placed in sealed cartons.
- I. The athletic trainer should also be instructed in such disposal procedures. This individual should also be appropriately supplied with the essential materials when carrying out the duties of the position. Only the school nurse, custodian, and athletic trainer will be directly involved in the disposal of such waste.
- J. The Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation will make all arrangements for pickup of such waste products. He will also maintain an "Infectious and Chemotherapeutic Waste Manifest" recording the time of removal as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources.
- K. These procedures have been in effect since April 1993 and reflect existing legislation and standards governing the disposal of this waste.
- L. Any inquiries should be made to the Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation.

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