



## Biohazardous Waste and Sharps Disposal

### Federal

OSHA Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens Standard 29 CFR 1910.1030

### State

California Code of Regulations (CCR), Medical Waste Management Act, Chapter 6.1 §117600-118360

Recommendations for Prevention of  
Guidelines for Infection Control in  
Hand hygiene in Healthcare Settings

Policy Statement: It is the policy of WesternU to preserve the health and safety of its faculty, staff, students and patients through the proper identification and disposal of biohazardous waste and sharps products.

Policy Purpose: To ensure compliance with local, state and federal regulations related to biohazardous waste handling and disposal.

The most practical approach to the management of biohazardous waste is to identify those wastes with the potential for causing infection during the handling and disposal process. There is no epidemiological evidence to suggest that most healthcare waste is any more infectious than residential waste. Moreover, there is no epidemiological evidence that healthcare waste has caused disease in the community as a result of improper disposal.

Biohazardous Waste Disposal Procedure: Observing standard precautions, as defined by the CDC,



in a soiled utility room or other biohazardous waste storage without having first been placed into a



Paper, wrappers

Gloves

Dressings that are not wet or soggy

Empty IV bags (with no prior additives) and tubing (except liquid blood)

Empty suction canisters

Dry chux (absorbent pads)

Any waste which contains non-fluid blood and other medical solid waste

3. Biohazardous waste is picked up from each department by a licensed Waste Hauler. The university's, or Samaritan Health Systems Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) Department is responsible for arranging these pickups on a regular schedule. Storage of the Biologic/Biohazard receptacles is provided within a covered and locked area. Storage of biohazardous waste in California:

7 days (>20 lbs. biohazardous waste generated/month)

