

## DISPOSAL OF WASTE IN THE LABORATORY

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### Policy

The Clinical Laboratory and Pathology must dispose of and handle all hazardous waste as defined by regulatory agencies.

KP is committed to strictly following the law and the established policies and procedures when it comes to disposal of regulated waste.

Proper waste management and disposal practices, policies and procedures must be followed at all times, at all KP locations, to enable regulatory compliance and ensure safety for members, employees and the community.

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### Definitions

This table lists the definitions of types of waste:







<b>Waste Type</b>	<b>Definitions/Descriptions</b>
PHI Waste	Protected Health Information, confidential individual health information
Medical Waste	Includes biohazardous waste, pathology waste, pharmaceutical waste and trace chemotherapy waste
Hazardous Waste	Specific pharmaceuticals and chemicals
Universal Waste	Batteries, electronic equipment, and lamps

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## DISPOSAL OF WASTE IN THE LABORATORY, Continued

### Disposal of Waste

Step	Action											
1	Properly identify the waste material to be disposed of.											
2	Look for the appropriate waste receptacle in the department											
3	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>If you have</th> <th>Then, dispose in</th> <th>Receptacle Graphic</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blood Specimen Tubes from the stockyard, walk-in refrigerators and Specimen Processing Areas</li> <li>Blood Collection Tubes, EXPIRED</li> <li>Pipet Tips</li> <li>Glass reagent/control bottles, EMPTY</li> <li>ESR Tubes</li> <li>Urine Testing Tubes</li> <li>Wooden Applicator Sticks</li> <li>Urine Transfer Straws</li> </ul> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>RED</b> Sharps Containers</p> </td> <td style="text-align: center;">  </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ALL Glass Slides</li> </ul> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>BLUE</b> Sharps/Pharmaceutical Waste Containers</p> </td> <td style="text-align: center;">  </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			If you have	Then, dispose in	Receptacle Graphic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blood Specimen Tubes from the stockyard, walk-in refrigerators and Specimen Processing Areas</li> <li>Blood Collection Tubes, EXPIRED</li> <li>Pipet Tips</li> <li>Glass reagent/control bottles, EMPTY</li> <li>ESR Tubes</li> <li>Urine Testing Tubes</li> <li>Wooden Applicator Sticks</li> <li>Urine Transfer Straws</li> </ul>	<p><b>RED</b> Sharps Containers</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ALL Glass Slides</li> </ul>	<p><b>BLUE</b> Sharps/Pharmaceutical Waste Containers</p>	
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## DISPOSAL OF WASTE IN THE LABORATORY, Continued

Step	Action		
3	<p><b>If you have</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-Blood Specimens (Urine, Body Fluids, Swabs, Occult Blood Cards)</li> <li>• Specimen Bags/items with “biohazard” logo</li> <li>• Gloves, SOILED</li> <li>• Disposal lab coats, SOILED</li> <li>• Transfer Pipets, SOILED</li> <li>• Urine Strips, USED</li> <li>• Gauzes/Paper towels, SOILED WITH BLOOD/SPECIMENS</li> </ul>	<p><b>Then, dispose in</b></p> <p><b>Biohazard Containers</b></p>	<p><b>Receptacle Graphic</b></p> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computer-generated tests orders/manually written tests orders/documents with PHI information</li> <li>• Accession labels not attached to any specimens</li> <li>• Printer ribbons with visible PHI information</li> <li>• Printed materials (vendor literatures, magazines, announcements, etc.)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Confidential Trash Containers</b></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gloves, NOT SOILED</li> <li>• Disposable lab coats, NOT SOILED</li> <li>• Transfer Pipets, NOT SOILED</li> <li>• Empty Sani Cloth Containers, DRIPPED DRY</li> <li>• Dust Destroyer canisters, EMPTY</li> <li>• Alcohol pads, chloro-prep sponges, towellettes, hand gels, betadine, OPENED</li> <li>• Empty plain plastic bags, empty unmarked IFOBT envelopes, empty plain unmarked brown bags (WITHOUT PHI)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Regular Trash Containers</b></p>		



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## DISPOSAL OF WASTE IN THE LABORATORY, Continued

Step	Action		
3	<p><b>If you have</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Empty plastic reagent bottles* (<i>NOTE: *Medium to Large size containers that can be dripped dry and discard in the regular trash containers</i>)</li> <li>Alcohol pads, chloro- prep sponges, towellettes, hand gels, betadine, EXPIRED, UNOPENED</li> </ul>	<p><b>Then, dispose in</b></p> <p><b>“Black RCRA Most In One” Solid Waste Containers</b></p> <p><i>NOTE: Write the accumulation date</i></p>	<p><b>Receptacle Graphic</b></p> 
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Batteries, bulbs, calculators, flash/pen lights</li> </ul>	<p><b>Universal Waste Containers</b></p> <p><i>NOTE: Write the accumulation date</i></p>	

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## DISPOSAL OF WASTE IN THE LABORATORY, Continued

Step	Action		
3	<p><b>If you have</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gauze/Paper towels SOAKED WITH STAINS</li> <li>Toothpastes, toothbrushes, shampoos, soaps, lotions, EVEN WITH RESIDUAL LIQUID</li> </ul>	<p><b>Then, dispose in</b></p> <p><b>“Black RCRA Most In One Waste” Containers</b></p> <p><b>NOTE: Write on the label “Flammable Waste”</b></p> <p><i>NOTE: Write the accumulation date</i></p>	<p><b>Receptacle Graphic</b></p> 
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Silver Electrodes</li> </ul>	<p><b>“Black RCRA Most In One” Waste Containers</b></p> <p><b>NOTE: Write on the label “Silver-containing products WASTE”</b></p> <p><i>NOTE: Write the accumulation date</i></p>	

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