 <b>Processing SOP Manual</b>	<b>Title: Regulated Medical Waste</b>	
	<b>SOP:</b> Processing Department	<b>Version: 1.0</b>
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**PURPOSE:**

It is the policy of Boyce and Bynum Pathology Laboratory (BBPL) to manage waste in a manner designed to protect patients, students, and employees as well as the environment. Waste handling is accomplished in a cost effective manner following all applicable local, state, and federal regulations and laws.

**SCOPE:**

Processing Department, BBPL Company

**RESPONSIBILITY:**

All processors are responsible for reading, understanding, and competently performing this procedure.

**EQUIPMENT:** None

**SUPPLIES:** None

**EQUIPMENT:**

Biohazard bin lined with appropriately marked red biohazard bag.


**SUPPLIES:**

PPE  
Cable ties

**PROCEDURE:**

**Regulated Medical Waste Procedure**

1. Biohazardous waste (infectious waste) is defined as material of biological origin capable of producing an infectious disease in humans or animals and includes at a minimum blood, body fluids, discarded sharps and inoculated culture media.
  - a. Biohazardous waste is composed of two broad categories to include sharps and non-sharps.
2. Biohazardous waste is disposed of through a licensed biohazardous waste contractor. Final disposition of biohazardous waste is in accordance with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations and applies a process which renders the biohazardous waste non-infectious.
3. Biohazardous waste, except for sharps, shall be contained in disposable plastic bags or containers that are tear-resistant, leak-proof, and secured to prevent leakage or expulsion of solid or liquid waste during storage, handling or transport.
4. Biohazardous waste will be transported in covered containers designated for biohazardous waste.

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5. Bags will meet current tear and impact resistance requirements, will conform to current maximum size and weight requirements, and will be labeled as biohazardous.
  - a. The top of the inner bag **MUST** be closed by twisting the bag closed and tying in a single knot or by twisting the bag closed and applying a plastic cable tie to the twisted area of the bag.
  - b. It is preferred that waste be placed directly into rigid reusable containers supplied by the waste contractor at the site of origin.
  
6. Prior to transport off BBPL premises, all biohazardous waste will be placed in an approved leak-proof container provided by the waste contractor.
  - a. These containers must be clearly marked and labeled in accordance with DOT and OSHA regulatory requirements.
  - b. All containers will be closed and securely sealed with a cable tie by BBPL staff.
  
7. Infectious sharps, medical sharps, broken contaminated glass and pipettes contaminated with infectious material must be disposed of in a leak-proof, rigid, puncture resistant and break-resistant container.
  - a. These containers must be sealed shut when  $\frac{3}{4}$  full and placed with the biohazardous waste for pickup and disposal.
  - b. Designated off-site locations may have sharps containers transported to the main facility if they are placed in a designated secondary container for transport to the main facility.
  - c. All sharps containers will be placed in the biohazard tubs for disposal.
  
8. Our current contracted hazardous materials removal company require that the bin weigh no more than 50 lbs. or an additional fee will be assessed.
  
9. Only trained and certified individuals shall sign the Regulated Medical Waste transport shipping papers. These individuals are signing for the company and as such are not held financially responsible for any penalties or fines that may be imposed by regulatory agencies (i.e., OSHA, DOT, etc) so long as they are acting in a reasonable manner, consistent with their training and BBPL policy.

**REFERENCES: MTS**

**RELATED DOCUMENTS: N/A**

**APPENDIXES: N/A**