

UH-C SEPTEMBER 2014 SAFETY TOPIC

Contaminated Waste: What is **RED BAGGED** and What is Not

Red Bag Waste Includes	Red Bag Waste Does Not Include
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood & Body fluids/tissues that can be released on contact. • Blood products and blood collection bags and tubing • Diapers and linen savers with blood/body fluids • Blood or plasma contaminated disposable items • Dialysis waste, tubing, filters, disposable sheets, towel • Disposable surgical drapes, laps, dressings, and other items that are saturated with blood or body fluids/tissues • Suction canisters • Non-bloody airways and endotrach tubes (aesthetic purposes) • Tubes containing blood • Thoracentesis • Dressings and pads saturated with blood & body fluids/tissues • Human pathological wastes including tissue, organs, body parts, stillbirths, placentas, and fluids that are removed during surgery, delivery, pathology, or autopsy • Blood and body fluids/tissues, animal carcasses, and bedding exposed to infectious agents during research • Sharps wastes; needles, scalpels, scissors, glass pipettes, capillary tubes, slides, cover slips, and glass tubes containing blood (placed all of these in sharps container only) • Any other disposable waste which has been mingled with potentially infectious waste • Cultures, blood vials, tubes, and associated biologicals from laboratories • HEPA filters from biological safety cabinets and air conditioning systems • Disposable diapers or underpads (Chux) from patients on Enteric or contact isolation • Infectious waste spill clean-up debris • Discarded live and attenuated vaccines (<u>sharps</u> container) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanitary Pads • Diapers • Diapers and linen savers with urine and feces only • IV bottles and tubing without blood (follow pharm. policy) • Thermometer Probes • Disposable Thermometers – if glass, place in sharps container • Non-bloody exam table covers • Non-bloody breathing circuits and tubing • Oxygen tubing, mask, and humidifiers • Items that have been steam sterilized after use • Paper towels • All wrappers and disposable items not saturated with blood and body fluids/tissues • Syringe packaging, alcohol preps • Non-bloody disposable gowns, mask, and gloves • Flushed blood administration tubing, flushed dialysis membranes • Items with NO contamination by substance for which the patient is isolated • Food wrappers, IV bags, newspapers, boxes, packaging • Food and food trays from isolation patients • Chem/glucose strips • Hemocults • Non-bloody gloves, masks, eye wear, face shields, and gowns • Radioactive anti-neoplastic waste – follow hospital policy • Needles and Sharps (Must place in Sharps Container)
<p>Waste is not contaminated simply because of location, i.e., Operating Room, Labor and Delivery rooms, isolation rooms.* These areas can have both clean and contaminated waste.</p>	