

**University of Washington Biohazardous Waste Streams  
University of Washington Medical Center**

	<u>Biomedical/Biohazardous Waste, Including Recombinant and Synthetic DNA/RNA Waste</u>	<u>Laboratory Glass and Plasticware Waste</u>	<u>Sharps Waste</u>	<u>Human Pathological Waste</u>
<b>Identification</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human blood, tissue, cells</li> <li>Pathogenic agents (bacteria, rickettsia, fungi, viruses, protozoa, parasites and prions)</li> <li>Recombinant and synthetic DNA/RNA, cultures, stocks and cell lines containing recombinant or synthetic DNA/RNA</li> <li>Lab waste that has come in contact with the above listed biohazards</li> <li><i>Combining bio and other hazardous waste? Contact EH&amp;S Research &amp; Occupational Safety.</i></li> </ul>	Laboratory glass and plasticware waste that could puncture a plastic bag (e.g., serological pipettes, syringes without needles, glass test tubes)	Sharps waste (hypodermic needles, IV tubing with needles attached, scalpel blades, lancets, etc. See Sharps webpage for full list.)	Pathological waste <b>obtained from UW sources</b> (e.g., human tissues and anatomical parts that emanate from surgery, obstetrical procedures, autopsy, teaching and research laboratories) <sup>1</sup>
<b>Segregation</b>	<p>Operatory liquid waste</p> <p>Materials containing free-flowing blood, blood products or body fluids</p> <p>Laboratory biohazardous waste</p>	Biohazardous medical laboratory glass and plasticware		
<b>Containment</b>	<p>Collect liquid in a medical vacuum.</p> <p>Collect waste in red, plastic waste container, lined with a biohazard bag, tight-fitting lid and biohazard label. When full, liner is loosely tied or taped closed.</p>	Package in biohazard bag, then in heavy cardboard box. Close and label box with autodave tape, LABORATORY GLASS tape and biohazard symbol.	Place in a rigid, red, plastic, biohazard labeled sharps container. When no more than 2/3 full, close lid.	Package material in a biohazard bag, then in an approved cardboard box as instructed for collection by Biological Structure, 206.685.2274. *Please note this is a fee based service.
<b>Treatment</b>	<p>UWMC Environmental Services* transports and autoclaves containers.<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Laboratory Medicine autoclaves a portion of their generated waste on-site.<sup>2</sup></p>	<a href="#">Autoclave waste</a> <sup>2</sup>	UWMC Environmental Services* transports and autoclaves containers. <sup>2</sup>	Transport to Biological Structure using leak-proof secondary containment. Human pathological waste is cremated on-site.
<b>Disposal</b>	<p>Disposal via sanitary sewer</p> <p>Disposal via municipal waste</p>	Place LABORATORY GLASSWARE box NEXT TO, BUT NOT IN regular trash container. UWMC Environmental Services* transports for disposal via municipal waste.	Sharps containers are kept separate from general solid waste for disposal via municipal waste.	Ashes are buried at designated UW site at local cemetery.

<sup>1</sup>Follow suppliers instructions for pathological waste obtained from non-UW sources.

<sup>2</sup>[UW Waste Contractor](#) provides back-up service.

**Treatment & Disposal Services:** \*UWMC Environmental Services, 206.598.6181

**EH&S Research & Occupational Safety**

Phone: 206.221.7770

E-mail: [ehsbio@uw.edu](mailto:ehsbio@uw.edu)

[Transporting Bio Waste](#)

