

DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BIOMEDICAL WASTE PLAN

A. PURPOSE

To provide for the proper management of biomedical waste in a school setting which is consistent with the guidelines established by Chapter 381.0092, Florida Statutes and Chapter 64E-16 Florida Administrative Code.

B. PLAN

This plan provides guidance to school staff on how to handle and store biomedical or infectious waste as required by Chapter 64E-16.003 (2), F.A.C.

C. IDENTIFICATION OF BIOMEDICAL WASTE

According to Florida Administrative Code 64E-16.002, biomedical waste is defined as any solid or liquid waste which may present a threat of infection to humans, including nonliquid tissue, body parts, blood, blood products, and body fluids from humans and other primates and discarded sharps.

Biomedical Waste falls under two broad categories, SHARPS and NON-SHARPS.

Examples of SHARPS include, but are not limited to:

- Needles (used or unused; traditional or self-sheathed)
- Razors
- Lancets
- Epinephrine auto-injectors

Examples of NON-SHARPS (absorbent and non-absorbent) include, but are not limited to:

- Blood soaked dressing
- Contaminated gloves
- Tubing to nebulizers
- Suction tips

D. SEGREGATION AND HANDLING

“Point of Origin” is defined as the room(s) or area at which the biomedical waste is generated. In schools the health room or designated area where sick or injured children are retained will be considered the “Point of Origin”.

All SHARPS shall be segregated from other waste and shall be kept at the point of origin. All SHARPS are to be placed in a SHARPS container. The SHARPS container is to be located in the school health room or designated area where procedures are performed on site.

A SHARPS container is to be considered full when materials placed into it reach the designated full line, or, if a full line is not indicated, when the container becomes 2/3's full (please make sure to notify the schools mail route driver for pickup of container). Once a SHARPS container is filled, please order a new container from Warehouse Storeroom. Also, contact the Warehouse Outbound Manager at 904-858-1443, if the route driver does not make the pickup within his next mail delivery to confirm schedule for the full container to be picked up. The full container should be properly sealed closed prior to transporting.

All NON-SHARPS Biomedical Waste shall be handled as indicated below.

NOTE: All employees handling Biomedical Waste shall wear protective clothing; at a minimum, gloves.

E. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as gloves and masks can be ordered through the Storeroom. These protective items should be kept in the health room, coaches, principals and custodial offices. Eye goggles, face masks and gowns can be special ordered through a medical supply company.

F. ON SITE STORAGE

Biomedical waste shall not be stored for a period greater than 30 days. The 30-day period for a SHARPS container begins when it becomes full; otherwise, the SHARPS container can be used for any length of time until full.

G. TRANSFER/ TRANSPORT

SHARPS containers will be closed when they reach the fill-line and sealed properly before transport. Please see the information above to order a new SHARPS container and arrange for pick up.

Transportation of biomedical waste for large spills will be handled by an outside company arranged through district warehouse operations. Smaller clean-ups will be handled by the custodial service as per protocol.

H. CLEAN UP OF SPILLS AND/OR LEAKS OF BIOMEDICAL WASTE

All Duval County Public Schools are supplied with approved United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) disinfectants for cleaning minor blood and body fluid spills. Initial cleanup of blood and other potentially infectious materials should be handled in the following manner:

1. The school custodian should be called upon when assistance is needed in cleaning up body fluids such as blood, vomitus, urine, feces, saliva and nasal discharges. Special precautions should be taken when cleaning up any of these body fluids.
2. For large blood spills, school staff will need to first isolate area, then contact Contracted Services Supervisor at (904) 858-6300. The Custodial Area Manager and/or Zone Manager will be immediately notified. Custodial employees will exercise Universal Precautions when dealing with the area. The area will be contained via wet floor signs, caution tape and/or furniture. Signs will be placed around the area stating "Do Not Enter." If the area in question can be secured/locked, it will be, and signs will be posted until the appropriate clean up team arrives.
3. See OSHA manual for more information.

I. SIGNATURE PAGE

With my signature I agree that I have had the opportunity to read this written Biomedical Waste Plan, which is in compliance with Chapter 64E-16, F.A.C.

By reviewing this plan, I understand the identification of Biomedical Waste, segregation and handling of Biomedical Waste, different types of waste storage, transporting procedures, how to handle clean-ups, and decontaminate biomedical waste spills.

Date _____

Name _____

Title _____

This page is to be completed each school year and stored in a secure location in the school health room