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|  | **Date** |
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| **Vice President, Facilities Management** | **Date** |
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| **Manager, Medical Sciences Labs** | **Date** |
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| **Purpose** |
| This SOP stipulates proper procedures for the collection, decontamination, and disposal of waste generated in gross anatomy laboratory. This SOP was developed to minimize the risk of exposure to the biohazard waste generated in the lab. |

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| **Scope** |
| This SOP is applicable to all procedures to be conducted in the Gross Anatomy Lab. |

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#  AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

* 1. EHS and the Medical Sciences Lab Manager have the authority to establish this procedure and are responsible for the control of SOP documentation.

# DEFINITIONS

* 1. **Biohazard Waste:** Any solid, semi-solid or liquid waste which may present a threat of infection to humans, including non-liquid tissue, body parts, blood, blood products, and body fluids from humans and other primates; laboratory and veterinary wastes which contain human disease-causing agents; and discarded sharps.
	2. **Hazardous waste:** Waste that poses substantial or potential threats to public health or the environment.
	3. **Contaminated:** Soiled by any biomedical waste.
	4. **Decontamination:** The process of removing pathogenic microorganisms from objects or surfaces, thereby rendering them safe for handling.
	5. **Disinfection:** Reducing the number of present viable microorganisms.
	6. **Leak resistant:** Prevents liquid from escaping to the environment in the upright position.
	7. **Biowaste bin:** A rigid hard-walled type container with double red biohazard bag inside of the container used to enclose packages of biomedical waste.
	8. **Puncture resistant:** Able to withstand punctures from contained sharps during normal usage and handling.
	9. **Sealed**: Free from openings that allow the passage of liquids.
	10. **Sharps**: Objects capable of puncturing, lacerating, or otherwise penetrating the skin.
	11. **Sharps Container**: A rigid, leak and puncture resistant container, designed primarily for the containment of sharps, clearly labeled with the phrase and international biological hazard symbol as described in Section 64E-16.004(2)(a), F.A.C., and manufactured with dyes meeting the requirements for incidental metals as described in Section 64E-16.004(2)(b)1.b., F.A.C.

# SAFETY

All procedures should be performed in accordance with Gross Anatomy Lab Procedures, and applicable Federal, State, and Institutional safety rules and regulations.

# PROCEDURE

* 1. **Waste Disposal Procedures**
* Each person working in the laboratory is responsible to ensure that all wastes are disposed properly.
* Waste disposal procedures must be in compliance with the NSU waste disposal policy as well as Federal, State and Local regulations.
* Lab staff are responsible for proper packaging and processing waste.
* Always wear disposable gloves when handling waste.
	1. **Procedure for Hazardous Liquid Waste**
		1. All hazardous chemical waste shall be collected and stored in a leak-proof container with a tight fitting lid.
		2. Hazardous waste shall be labeled with the contents.
		3. When full contact EHS for collection and proper disposal.
	2. **Procedure for Biohazard Waste**
		1. Always wear disposable gloves and long sleeved disposable gown when handling biohazard waste.
		2. Biowaste bins are hard-walled containers with lid and double red biohazard bag inside of it.
		3. Biowaste bins are located in each room.
		4. Always use the bin located in the room, do not carry the biohazard waste or any other waste to other labs.
		5. Do not remove the lid. Always keep biowaste bin closed.
		6. When full, this waste is collected building staff.
		7. Biowaste bins are disposed of weekly.
		8. Red biohazard bags are stored under the sink in each lab.

# SPILLS

* 1. **Chemical spills**
		1. The chemical spill kit with step-by-step instructions is available in each lab.
		2. When a chemical spill occurs cover the spilled area with disposable absorbent material (i.e. pillows, paper towels or granules) to soak up any fluids before wiping it up.
		3. Always try to contain the spill, do not spread it, wipe material towards the center and take care to remove any sharp objects with forceps, or brush and dustpan before attempting to wipe up.
		4. Dispose all material used in hazardous waste container.
	2. **Biohazard spill**

**Note:** Always wear disposable gloves and gown when cleaning a biohazard spill.

* + 1. The biohazard spill kit with step-by-step instructions is available in each lab.
		2. Spilled biohazard liquids can be decontaminated with suitable disinfecting solution and treated as biohazard waste.
		3. Allow the disinfectant to react for 30 minutes before wiping up.
		4. Always try to contain the spill, do not spread it, wipe material towards the center and take care to remove any sharp objects with forceps or tongs before attempting wipe up.
		5. All contaminated disposable items, not containing sharps, should be treated as biomdical waste and shall be disposed of in double biohazard bags at the place of origin.
		6. **Sharps and Broken Glass**
			1. Contaminated sharps and broken glassware such as scalpel blades require handling and disposal as biohazard waste and must be placed in a red puncture-resistant biohazard sharps container at the place of origin.
			2. Scalpel blades must be disposed into sharps container.
			3. The caps from needles are to be disposed as biohazard solid waste.
			4. To avoid accidents related to overfilling the containers, remove the containers for disposal when they are 2/3 full. The container must be closed and snapped shut.
			5. The sharp container is collected by building staff.
	1. **General Waste**
		1. Material free of any apparent or actual infectious or hazardous chemical contamination such as empty boxes, plastic covers, paper towels etc.
		2. General waste shall be placed in the general waste bins located in each room. Never leave any waste on the tables or on the floor.
		3. Drains shall not be used for disposal of either waste or chemicals.

If you generate waste other then mentioned in this SOP please contact the EHS.

# REFERENCES

* 1. Florida Biomedical Waste Policy Chapter 64E-16 Section 64E-16.004(2)(a), F.A.C.,

Section 64E-16.004(2)(b)1.b., F.A.C.

<http://www.doh.state.fl.us/chdsumter/docs/BMWFAC.pdf>

[http://www.doh.state.fl.us/chdBrevard/env\_hlth/EH\_Documents/Chapter\_64E- 16\_F\_A\_C.pdf](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/chdBrevard/env_hlth/EH_Documents/Chapter_64E-%20%2016_F_A_C.pdf)

* 1. Environment, Health & Safety
	2. 29 CFR § 1910.1200