

MERCY LIVING CENTER

DEPARTMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE			
TITLE: Handling of Regulated Medical Waste	POLICY #: LTC-ENV-0017	DEPARTMENT: Environmental Services	ORIGIN DATE: 5-20-08
PREPARED BY: Barb Loewen EVS Manager	APPROVED BY: Madaline Toliver AVP Long Term Care		REVISION DATE: 2-8-2013 6-26-2017 7-10-2019 6-29-2020

Distribution: Environmental Services

Performed By: EVS

Purpose:

To ensure proper identification, collection and transportation of Regulated Medical Waste from the points of origin to incineration. To ensure compliance with the New York State Department of Health regulations on the disposition of infectious waste.

Responsibility:

It is the responsibility of EVS to provide a routine system for collection of all Regulated Medical Waste.

Procedure:

The following procedure is to be used when handling infectious waste.

1. Regulated Medical waste must be handled by all personnel utilizing Standard Precautions to prevent direct exposure to skin and mucous membranes.
INFECTIOUS WASTE:
 - a) Regulated Medical waste from resident's rooms, to be transferred by individual providing care to Regulated Medical waste container in the Soiled Utility Room.
 - b) Regulated Medical waste will be collected from Soiled Utility Room by EVS every 24 Hours. If needed more frequently, Nursing is to notify EVS.
 - c) Regulated Medical waste containers: It is the responsibility of Nursing Service to contact EVS when a resident is in need of a medical waste container in their room. EVS will deliver the appropriate container.
2. Regulated Medical waste includes anatomical material (human or animal body parts) blood (20cc), any materials contaminated with a body substance(s) capable of transmitting disease to another human being.
3. Needles or other sharps including those attached to intravenous lines will be disposed of in impervious containers.

SHARPS CONTAINERS:

- a) When full – close and seal lid
 - b) Place white label, with address & date on Sharps Container.
 - c) Nursing is responsible to place filled Sharps Container in the Med Room.
 - d) Nursing to contact EVS for pickup of Sharps Containers as needed (4 or more in Med Room)
4. Anatomical materials, blood-soiled articles or contaminated materials will be disposed of in leak proof bags.
 5. Containers filled with liquid blood and other biological material may have the liquid poured down a drain, or be disposed of in leak proof liners.
 6. EVS Staff will collect waste from the points of origin and transport to the Regulated Medical Waste Room. The Contractor then removes these waste containers from the Regulated Medical Waste Room as per contract.