

BIOMEDICAL WASTE PLAN

CHAPTER 5.5

Issued: January 1997	Revised: January 2018, July 2021, September 2021
Submitted by: Health/Safety Officer	Approved by: Chief of Fire Rescue

DIRECTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE BIOMEDICAL WASTE PLAN

All biomedical waste facilities are required to develop and maintain a current operating plan that complies with subsection 64E-16.003(2), Florida Administrative Code.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Biomedical Waste Operating Plan is to provide guidance and describe requirements for the proper management of biomedical waste at ACFR facilities. Guidelines for management of biomedical waste are found in Chapter 64E-16, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), and in section 381.0098, Florida Statutes.

TRAINING FOR PERSONNEL

Biomedical waste training will be scheduled as required by paragraph 64E-16.003(2)(a), F.A.C. Training sessions will detail compliance with this operating plan and with Chapter 64E-16, F.A.C. Training sessions will include all of the following activities that are carried out at ACFR:

- Definition and Identification of Biomedical Waste
- Segregation
- Storage
- Labeling
- Transport
- Procedure for Decontaminating Biomedical Waste Spills
- Contingency Plan for Emergency Transport
- Procedure for Containment

ACFR must maintain records of employee training. These records will be kept and tracked using Target Solutions. Training records will be kept for participants in all training sessions for a minimum of three (3) years and will be available for review by Department of Health (DOH) inspectors.

DEFINITION, IDENTIFICATION, AND SEGREGATION OF BIOMEDICAL WASTE

Biomedical waste is any solid or liquid waste which may present a threat of infection to humans. Biomedical waste is further defined in subsection 64E-16.002(2), F.A.C. Items of sharps and non-sharps biomedical waste generated by ACFR personnel are:

- IV catheters, needles and scalpels

- Contaminated gauze and bandaging materials
- Any other disposable materials that are contaminated with blood or body fluids.

If biomedical waste is in a liquid or semi-solid form and aerosol formation is minimal, the waste may be disposed into a sanitary sewer system or into another system approved to receive such waste by the Department of Environmental Protection or the DOH.

CONTAINMENT

Red bags for containment of biomedical waste will comply with the required physical properties.

ACFR red bags are manufactured by Owens & Minor Inc. 9120 Lockwood Blvd Mechanicsville VA 32116

1-800-488-8850. ACFR documentation of red bag construction standards is kept in office of Health/Safety Officer.

Working staff can quickly get red bags at from their apparatus storage, station storage locations and CSW. Sharps will be placed into sharps containers at the point of origin.

Filled red bags and filled sharps containers will be sealed at the point of origin. Red bags, sharps containers, and outer containers of biomedical waste, when sealed, will not be reopened in this facility. Ruptured or leaking packages of biomedical waste will be placed into a larger container without disturbing the original seal.

LABELING

All sealed biomedical waste red bags and sharps containers will be labeled with ACFR's name and address prior to offsite transport. If a sealed red bag or sharps container is placed into a larger red bag prior to transport, placing ACFR's name and address only on the exterior bag is sufficient. Outer containers must be labeled with our transporter's name, address, registration number, and 24-hour phone number.

STORAGE

When sealed, red bags, sharps containers, and outer containers will be stored in areas that are restricted through the use of locks, signs, or location. The 30-day storage time period will commence when the first non-sharps item of biomedical waste is placed into a red bag or sharps container, or when a sharps container that contains only sharps is sealed.

Indoor biomedical waste storage areas will be constructed of smooth, easily cleanable materials that are impervious to liquids. These areas will be regularly maintained in a sanitary condition. The storage area will be vermin/insect free.

Outdoor storage areas also will be conspicuously marked with a six-inch international biological hazard symbol and will be secure from vandalism.

Biomedical waste will be stored and restricted in the following manner:

- Where available, containers will be in separate rooms identified with signage noting storage of biomedical waste.
- Containment boxes will provide primary catchments at the base and a cover on top to restrict access to the contents of the boxes.

All storage areas will be appropriately identified and labeled.

Station Locations:

- CSW-Oxygen storage room west door.
- Station 60 Decontamination Room.
- Station 23 Decontamination Room.
- Station 80 Outside storage closet west side of station.
- Station 21 Apparatus bay southwest corner.

TRANSPORT

ACFR will negotiate for the transport of biomedical waste only with a DOH-registered company. If ACFR contracts with such a company, ACFR will have on file the pick-up receipts provided for the last three (3) years. Transport for ACFR facilities is provided by:

Biocycle

648 NW Guerdon Street Lake City, FL 32055 386-208-6263

Registration numbers: 51-052-8821

State of Florida ID#: 1402

Place pick-up receipts are kept at CSW, Station 60, 23, 80, 21 and Health/Safety Office

PROCEDURE FOR DECONTAMINATING BIOMEDICAL WASTE SPILLS

Should there be a breach of the red bag containing contaminated materials, the following procedures will be followed:

- Place broken bag in a second red bag
- Clean contaminated area with the germicidal agent provided at all stations in accordance with manufacturer's instructions for use.
- Properly dispose of in red bag any cleaning cloths, paper towels, etc. used to clean the spill

CONTINGENCY PLAN

Healthcare Waste Solutions

12394 SW 128th Street

Miami, FL 33186

305-238-2347

MISCELLANEOUS

For easy access by all of ACFR personnel, a copy of this biomedical waste operating plan will be kept in the following place:

- Office of Health/Safety
- CSW
- Stations 60, 23, 80 and 21

The following items will be kept at Station 60, 23, 80, 21 & CSW:

- a. Current DOH biomedical waste permit/exemption document

- b. Current copy Chapter 64E-16, F.A.C
- c. Copies of biomedical waste inspection reports from last three (3) years
- d. Transport logs from last three years
- e. On-line at Alachua County Policy Management System.

DISPOSABLE AND SINGLE USE NON-BIOMEDICAL WASTE ITEMS

Disposable or single use items are easily identified as such by manufacturer packaging. Single use items shall be treated as such and properly discarded after one (1) patient contact. Any disposable items that are not identified as single use, are not “grossly contaminated”, and are able to be sufficiently sanitized between patient contacts may be restocked after decontamination (e.g. disposable blood pressure cuffs, Intu Brite laryngoscope blades, etc.).

Items determined to be single use (BVM, O2 tubing, alcohol prep pads, IV TQ, etc.) and not meeting the criteria listed above to be classified as biomedical waste, will be disposed of in the garbage.

Items will be restocked on an “as needed” basis, following the guidelines for equipment ordering in Chapter 7.