



Regulated Waste Disposal Guide

Proper waste segregation is essential to protect the safety of our patients, staff, visitors, and the environment while ensuring compliance with federal, state, and local regulations. This guide provides disposal instructions for commonly encountered items to help ensure proper disposal. If you are unsure how to dispose of an item or cannot find it in this guide, visit the [EH&S website](#) or call EH&S at (916) 734-2740.

Hazardous Waste

Item	Category	Proper Disposal Method
Flammable (i.e., skin glue, adhesive remover)	Chemicals	Black RCRA (Flam/Tox)
Hydrogen Peroxide (greater than 3%)	Chemicals	Black RCRA (Flam/Tox)
Isopropyl Alcohol (bottle, unopened wipe, unopened swabstick)	Chemicals	Black RCRA (Flam/Tox)
Formalin	Chemicals	Black RCRA (Flam/Tox)
Misc. Cleaning Product – Not Empty (i.e., rapicide, liquid bleach)	Cleaning Supplies	Black RCRA (Flam/Tox)
Disinfecting Cleaning Wipes – Not Empty (i.e., oxivir, bleach wipes, sani-cloth wipes)	Cleaning Supplies	Black RCRA (Flam/Tox)
Hand Sanitizer (any size container, unopened packet)	Personal/Hygiene Products	Black RCRA (Flam/Tox)
Hand Sanitizing Wipes	Personal/Hygiene Products	Black RCRA (Flam/Tox)
Skin Marker	Surgical/Procedure Products	Black RCRA (Flam/Tox)
Topical – Unopened (i.e., SurePrep wipe, Cavilon no sing barrier film)	Surgical/Procedure Products	Black RCRA (Flam/Tox)
Chloraprep - (unopened swabstick or wipe, opened bottle with pourable liquid remaining)	Surgical/Procedure Products	Black RCRA (Flam/Tox)
Prevantics Wipes (3.15% CHG 70% IPA) -Unopened	Surgical/Procedure Products	Black RCRA (Flam/Tox)
Silver Nitrate	Chemicals	Black RCRA (Oxidizer)

Pharmaceutical Waste

Item	Category	Proper Disposal Method
Liquid – Medication Vial	Pharmaceutical	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Empty Medication Vial	Pharmaceutical	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Liquid – Medication IV Bag	Pharmaceutical	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Medication Syringe	Pharmaceutical	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps

Topical (i.e., antibiotic ointment, hydrocortisone, xeroform, aesthetic cream, barrier paste)	Pharmaceutical	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Nebulizer - Not Empty	Pharmaceutical	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Non-Hazardous Contrast	Pharmaceutical	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Medication Pill	Pharmaceutical	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Medication Single Dose Cup – Not Empty	Pharmaceutical	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Laxative powder- Not Empty	Pharmaceutical	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Scrub Stat CHG 2% - Not Empty	Personal Care Products	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
CHG 4% And Under (i.e., packet wipes, oral rinse, foam, cloth wipes, bottle)	Personal Care Products	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Endure Foam Hand Soap - Not Empty	Personal Care Products	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Soaps - Body Wash - Shampoo	Personal Care Products	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Toothpaste - Mouthwash	Personal Care Products	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Lotion	Personal Care Products	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Hydrogen Peroxide (3% or less)	Procedure Products	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Povidone Iodine – Not Empty	Procedure Products	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps

Biohazardous/Medical Waste

Item	Category	Proper Disposal Method
Syringe With Blood	Visible Blood	Red Biohazardous
Tubing with Blood	Visible Blood	Red Biohazardous
Vial with Blood	Visible Blood	Red Biohazardous
Bandages with Blood	Visible Blood	Red Biohazardous
Chucks with Blood	Visible Blood	Red Biohazardous
IV Start Kit	Visible Blood	Red Biohazardous
Misc Items with Blood (i.e., blood on gloves, PPE, towels, swabs)	Visible Blood	Red Biohazardous
Suction Canister W/Fluid OPIM	OPIM	Red Biohazardous
Swabs W/OPIM	OPIM	Red Biohazardous
Speculum W/OPIM (if speculum contains batteries, wipe and manage as universal waste)	OPIM	Red Biohazardous
OPIM - Other W/ Fluid OPIM	OPIM	Red Biohazardous

Biohazardous/Medical Waste – Sharps

Item	Category	Proper Disposal Method
Sharp With Safety Device Activated (i.e. Lancet)	Sharps	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Needle - Used	Sharps	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Syringe With Needle - Used	Sharps	Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps

Biohazardous/Medical Waste – Pathology (PATH)

Item	Category	Proper Disposal Method
Recognizable Human Tissue (excluding teeth)	Pathology	Pathology

Protected Health Information (PHI)

Item	Category	Proper Disposal Method
Prescription sticker affixed to syringe	Printout	Use Identi-hide label, then Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Prescription sticker affixed to IV bag	Printout	Use Identi-hide label, then Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Prescription sticker affixed to other item (i.e., med tube, bottle)	Printout	Use Identi-hide label, then Blue Co-mingled Pharm/Sharps
Patient Printout Sticker affixed to non-medication item (i.e., plastic bag, paper bag, feeding syringe)	Printout	Use Identi-hide label, then Trash
Patient Printout Sticker affixed to item (i.e., paperwork, envelope)	Printout	Shred Bin
Patient Printout Sticker (single or perforated together)	Printout	Shred Bin
Misc. Printout W/ PHI	Printout	Shred Bin
Patient Wristband	Printout	Shred Bin
Patient Menu	Printout	Shred Bin
Office Paper - Name & Medical Info	Handwritten	Shred Bin
Sticky Note - Name & Medical Info	Handwritten	Shred Bin

Universal Waste

Item	Category	Proper Disposal Method
Aerosol Can - Not Empty (i.e., spray adhesive remover, Painease, shave cream)	Aerosol	Universal Waste (empty aerosol cans - free of propellant/no liquid remaining – can be disposed in trash)
Batteries	Batteries	Universal Waste - Batteries
Laryngoscope/Glideslope	Electronics	Place battery in Universal Waste , then Repossessing
Medical Equipment W/Circuit Boards	Electronics	Universal Waste
Speculum with light/batteries	Electronics	Universal Waste (wipe before placing into container)
Electronics – Other (i.e., flashlight, patient fan, patient phone)	Electronics	Universal Waste