

Environmental Health and Safety

Potentially Infectious Waste Summary Sheet

(November 2017)



THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO

Purpose

Potentially infectious waste (PIW) may pose a danger to the environment or public health due to its biological risk.

PIW is regulated by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Transportation, and the City of Chicago.

All potentially infectious waste shall be treated, handled, and disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations.

Applicability

PIW Includes:

- ◆ Blood and materials contaminated with blood or other bodily fluids;
- ◆ Cultures and stocks infectious to humans;
- ◆ Discarded live viruses or attenuated vaccines;
- ◆ Pathological wastes;
- ◆ Sharps (needles, scalpels, Pasteur pipettes etc.) ;
- ◆ Human cell lines; and
- ◆ Recombinant DNA or organisms containing recombinant DNA.

On-campus ,potentially infectious waste is predominantly generated by research and teaching laboratories.

Smaller volumes of potentially infectious waste may be generated from other locations on campus such as the University of Chicago Police Department.

Off-campus research facilities may also generate potentially infectious waste and are therefore covered by the University's PIW policy as well.

General Requirements

Training	Training requirements for employees working with PIW include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Bloodborne Pathogens /Bloodborne Pathogens for Biomedical Researchers training; ◆ Potentially Infectious Waste training; and ◆ Oversized Potentially Infectious Waste Container (DOT SP –11185) Training (if applicable).
Handling	When working with PIW: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Use universal precautions (treat all materials that may pose a biohazard risk as PIW); ◆ Wear appropriate PPE when handling PIW; and ◆ Practice safe handling procedures and use good hygiene practices (wash hands after removing PPE).
Packaging	Potentially infectious waste Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Should be separated from other types of waste; ◆ Kept free of contamination; ◆ Stored in a puncture resistant, leak proof container lined with a red bag; ◆ Containers should be marked with the international biohazard symbol or words "infectious waste"; and ◆ Sharps (needles, razors etc.) shall be packaged only in approved sharps containers.
Storage	Potentially infectious waste containers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Shall be kept closed when not actively adding waste; ◆ Shall be stored in a secure area away from personal and items for general consumption; ◆ Maintained in a non-putrescent state; and ◆ Protected from pests and the elements.
Shipping	Only trained employees shall sign Illinois potentially infectious medical waste manifests All PIW containers must be marked with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Generator's address; ◆ Transporters name, address, and permit number; and ◆ Proper shipping name and date of shipment.

Spill Response

Immediately	Contain the Spill	Clean up Spill
Report large or unmanageable spills to UCPD 773.702.8181	Put on appropriate PPE Cover spill with paper towels Apply 1:10 household bleach dilution	Allow ten minutes of contact time for disinfectant Carefully remove absorbent, and place waste into PIW container Remove PPE and wash hands

For needle stick injuries, immediately page Needle Stick Hotline at 773.753.1880 #9990