



U.S. Department of
Transportation

Hazardous Materials
Regulations
(49 CFR 100-185)



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Relevant to the content of this continuing education activity, I have no conflict of interests with commercial interests to disclose.

Learner Objectives

- Describe how the DOT regulations relate to the disposal of regulated medical waste.
- Recognize the types of waste that are considered regulated medical waste, sharps and non-medical waste and how to properly dispose of each.
- Explain packing requirements related to Des Moines University.

INTRODUCTION

- DMU contracts with two companies that conducts business as a private carrier providing the service of transportation, treatment, and disposal of Regulated Medical Waste.
- The waste is composed mainly of Regulated Medical Waste (RMW) and cultures and stocks.

TRAINING

- Anyone who puts biohazard waste into a container for disposal is required to be trained to be in compliance with DOT Hazardous Material's Regulations.
- Training must be conducted upon hiring or within 90 days if being directly supervised by a hazmat trained employee.
- Training must be repeated at least once every 3 years.
 - Or when new revisions to rules become effective.

TRAINING

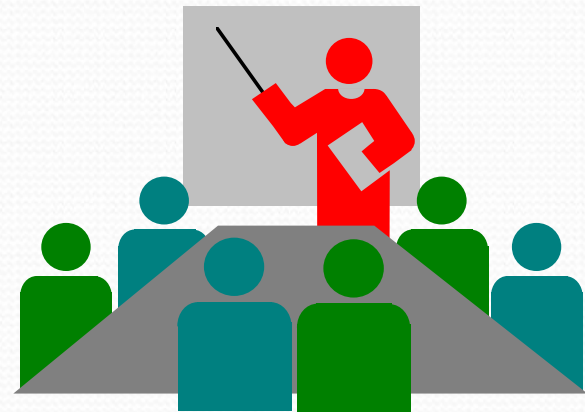
Records must include:

- employees name
- training completion date
- description of the training and name and address of trainer
- test and certification that employee met requirements

TRAINING

Training must cover these topics:

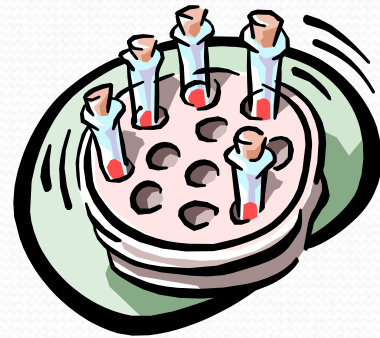
- General Awareness and Familiarization
 - Overall discussion of the rules and waste involved
- Function Specific - Different training for different tasks
 - Definitions
 - What is considered not to be RMW
- Safety
 - Emergency Response
 - Protection from hazards



Definitions

Regulated Medical Waste - a waste or reusable material, other than a culture or stock of an infectious substance generated in:

- diagnosis, treatment or immunization of human beings or animals
- research pertaining to diagnosis, treatment or immunization
- production or testing of biological products



Definitions Continued

- **Sharps (NEW):** Any object that may be contaminated with an infectious substance, and is able to cut or penetrate the skin or packaging material. The term includes; needles, syringes, scalpels, broken glass, culture slides, culture dishes, broken capillary tubes, broken ridged plastic, and exposed ends of dental wires. **These must go into a sharps container.**
- **Infectious substance (NEW):** Materials known to contain or suspected to contain a pathogen with the potential to cause disease upon exposure.
- **Risk groups:** Categories for infectious substances based on pathogenicity, mode, ease of transmission, degree of risk to individuals and communities, and reversibility of the disease through the availability of known and effective preventative agents and treatment. Least dangerous Risk Group 1; greatest danger Risk Group 4.



Classification and Identification of Infectious Substances and Regulated Medical Waste

- Waste which is **NOT** RMW, these items are not to be put in the sharps containers or the red bags!
 - Pharmaceutical waste
 - Chemicals
 - Hazardous waste as defined by EPA
 - Radioactive waste
 - Complete human remains
 - Bulk Chemotherapy waste
 - Compressed gas cylinders, canisters, inhalers, and aerosol cans
 - Any devices or solutions containing mercury or other heavy metals.

Packagings

- The boxes or crates that DMU uses are provided from the waste hauler so they are compliant with the DOT regulations.
- Packaging specific to RMW must be:
 - Must be PGII compliant
 - Rigid
 - Leak Resistant
 - Impervious to moisture
 - Able to prevent tearing or bursting under normal use
 - Sealed to prevent leakage
 - Puncture resistant for sharps
 - Tightly lidded or stoppered for liquids and secondary containers must contain sufficient absorbent materials

Packaging Requirements Cont.

Prior to shipping remember:

- containers must be closed prior to transport
- prior to use, reusable containers must be inspected of residue or damage which reduces the structural integrity of the container
- check that there is no visible leaking or external contamination
- no objects protruding from container
- all inner bags are tied shut
- container is not overfilled
- container was not ruptured or damaged in any way

**NO OTHER HAZARDOUS MATERIAL MAY BE
PLACED IN THE CONTAINER**