



## Resource Guide

Subject:	Waste Disposal Containers
Facility Site Review Source:	California Department of Health Care Services under Title 22, California Code of Regulations, Section 53230. (Requires the review and certification of Primary Care Practitioner (PCP) sites.)  Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) All Plan Letter 20-006, Site Reviews: Facility Site Review and Medical Record Review or any superseding APL
Relevant Law/Standard:	California Health and Safety Code, Sections 117600 - 118360
Agency//Organization Source:	California Department of Public Health, OSHA
Agency/Organization URL	<a href="https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DRSEM/CDPH%20Document%20Library/EMB/MedicalWaste/MedicalWasteManagementAct.pdf">https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DRSEM/CDPH%20Document%20Library/EMB/MedicalWaste/MedicalWasteManagementAct.pdf</a>

**Background:**

Medical waste being held for shipment offsite for treatment must be labeled, on the lid and sides of the containers.

**Biohazardous Waste Container:** Regulated waste, such as I.V. tubing used to administer blood, contaminated PPE, and needles etc., must be disposed of into appropriately labeled biohazardous waste containers. [29 CFR 1910.1030(g)(1)(i)(A)]

**Biohazard Label:** Containers that contain regulated waste (contaminated PPE, needles, etc.) as well as refrigerators and freezers containing blood or OPIM, must bear the biohazard symbol [29 CFR 1910.1030(g)(1)(i)(A)]

- A warning label is affixed to red-bagged regulated wastes, sharps containers, refrigerators/freezers containing blood or OPIM, containers used to store or transport blood or OPIM, and contaminated laundry or equipment for storage or transporting.
- The international biohazard symbol with word “BIOHAZARD” or the words “Biohazardous Waste” label (fluorescent orange or red orange with contrasting lettering/symbols) is part of, or affixed to, the container.
- Sharps containers are labeled with the words “Sharps Waste” or with the international biohazard symbol and the word “BIOHAZARD”.
- Individual containers of blood or OPIM are exempted from warning labels if placed inside a labeled secondary container for storage, transport, or disposal.
- Alternative marking or color coding may be used to label contaminated laundry or specimen containers if the alternative marking permits employees on site to recognize that container requires compliance with Universal Precautions.

**Purpose:**

To provide guidance on appropriate labels for medical waste containers.

**Resource:**

Medical & Biohazard Labels may be ordered from your waste hauler, medical supply company, or purchased online (ex: Amazon.com)

<https://store.stericycle.com/store/medical-accessories/medical-labels/>

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