



PATHOLOGICAL WASTE



Pathological Waste: is defined as any type of waste consisting of human body parts.

If there is a lot of liquid with the pathological waste, solidifier is needed in the bag.

DO NOT INCLUDE:

- ×No sharps
- ×No plastic IV cannulas
- ×No IV tubing, IV spikes, IV bags
- ×No medication or vials or packaging



Examples Include:

Bone

Placenta

Foreskin

Human
Organs

Human
Tissues

Surgical
Specimen



BIOHAZARD WASTE



RED BAG: for disposal of items with blood, or items with regulated body fluids (i.e., blood, pleural fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid)

Think Drippable. Pourable. Squeezable.

DO NOT INCLUDE:

- × No Sharps
- × No IV Bags/Tubing unless visible blood present
- × No Gowns or gloves unless saturated with blood
- × No peripads unless drippable, pourable, squeezable
- × Urine, Feces, Vomit and are **NOT** included **UNLESS** visible blood is present



If you doubt the amount of blood, place in biohazard bin.

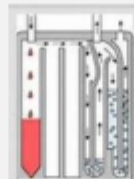
Examples Include:



Saturated Bandages



Saturated Dressings
and pads



Pleur-evac
Chest Drain



IV tubing
with blood





Canister with any amount of
blood or regulated body fluids

Includes smoke
evacuator
tubing and
filters!

- According to **OSHA's Surgical Smoke guidance**, smoke evacuator tubing, filters, and absorbers should be considered **infectious waste** when contaminated with blood or other potentially infectious materials (OPIM) and disposed of accordingly. ([OSHA eTool – Surgical Smoke Plume](#))
- **Minnesota law and MPCA guidance** define **infectious medical waste** as including disposable items such as tubing, catheters, and dressings that have been in contact with surgical sites, wounds, or body fluids. ([MPCA – Infectious Waste Management; Minnesota Statutes § 116.78, Infectious waste for generators](#))
- Importantly, **this guidance does not classify all smoke evacuator tubing as hazardous or RCRA waste**. It only becomes hazardous waste if it contains regulated chemical hazards, such as chemotherapeutic agents, which are a small subset of cases. For standard surgical cases, tubing can be safely managed as **biohazardous/infectious waste**, in compliance with OSHA and MPCA standards, without requiring dual or hazardous waste disposal.

Which Wastes are Accepted for Stericycle Regulated Medical Waste and Incineration Services?

ACCEPTED Waste Autoclave and Incineration Services	ACCEPTED Waste Incineration Services ONLY	NEVER Accepted Non-Conforming Waste
 <p>Regulated Medical Waste: biohazardous, biomedical or infectious waste</p>	Animal Carcasses	Large Volumes of Liquid and uncontained liquid
	Pathological Waste human or animal tissues, organs, limbs, surgical specimens, and other body parts	Complete Human Remains including heads, full torsos, and fetuses
 <p>Sharps Waste: RMW that is capable of cutting or penetrating the skin or packaging material, such as needles, syringes, scalpels, broken glass, culture slides, culture dishes, broken capillary tubes, broken rigid plastic, and exposed ends of dental wires</p>	Paraffin Wax Blocks wax blocks with human or animal tissue embedded	Select Agents or Toxins, and Untreated Category A Infectious Substances
	Prion Waste	Radioactive Waste
	Non-Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals pharmaceutical waste not regulated as hazardous by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or equivalent state agency	Hazardous Waste, including Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals
	Trace-Chemotherapy Waste any waste contaminated through contact with, or having previously contained, chemotherapeutic agents	Controlled Substances
		Loose Sharps Waste sharps waste that is not in a sharps container
		Universal Wastes such as batteries, fluorescent lamps, or mercury-contaminated equipment
		Chemical Wastes such as solvents or cleaning products
		Compressed Gas Cylinders canisters, aerosol cans, or metered dose inhalers
		Electric or Battery Powered Equipment such as solvents or cleaning products
		Any Waste That Is Prohibited By Law

Visit www.stericycle.com to download our Waste Acceptance Policies to ensure proper identification, classification, segregation, packaging, and labeling of applicable waste streams.