
 <div style="text-align: center;">  <h2 style="color: green; margin: 0;">OSPITAL NG PARAÑAQUE</h2> </div>		Document Code: <b>OSPAR- ANCI- LAB-2022-09</b>
<b>ANCILLARY DIVISION APPROVAL MATRIX</b>		Issue Date:
		Section / Department <b>LABORATORY SECTION</b>
Policy Title: <b>POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR THE PROPER DISPOSAL OF WASTE AND HAZARDOUS/INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCES</b>		Page 1 of 7
Prepared By:  <div style="text-align: center;"> <b>Julito Santos RMT</b>  <b>Chief Medical Technologist</b> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <b>Eric Mirandilla MD.</b>  <b>Pathologist</b> </div>	Reviewed By:  <div style="text-align: center;"> <b>Redentor P. Alquiroz, M.D.</b>  <b>Chief of Clinics</b> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <b>Darius J. Sebastian, MD,MPH, PHSAE</b>  <b>Hospital Administrator</b> </div>	Approved by:      <div style="text-align: center;"> <b>Jefferson R. Pagsisihan, MD, MHM</b>  <b>Hospital Director</b> </div>

### WASTE MANAGEMENT

Each laboratory shall be responsible to the community for the safe and proper disposal of hazardous waste.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SAFE WASTE HANDLING

##### A. Managerial Responsibilities

The section head with the hospital waste management committee shall design a system for the handling of wastes that provides for proper collection, segregation, storage, transport, disposal, monitoring, quality control and record keeping. The pathologist should design a system that utilizes less hazardous materials wherever and whenever possible.



##### B. Employees Responsibilities

The laboratory staff shall comply with the established policies and procedures. Bench technologists shall be assigned the important task of segregating; packing and labeling all waste requiring special handling. Laboratory staff should bring to the pathologist's attention the presence of any unsafe working conditions and identify opportunities for hazardous waste reduction.

#### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Education and training of waste management of all personnel and supervisors shall be required. Records of such training shall be documented and filed in the individual personnel chart.

#### CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR INJURIES AND DISRUPTION OF DISPOSAL

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Policy Title: <b>POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR THE PROPER DISPOSAL OF WASTE AND HAZARDOUS/INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCES</b>		Page 2 of 7
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There shall be written procedures for the management of employees' injuries, spills and disruption of treatment and disposal due to equipment failure or other problems.

## CLASSIFICATION OF GENERATED WASTE FROM THE BLOOD COLLECTION UNIT

### I. Hazardous Waste

Hazardous waste refers to solid or a combination of solid waste which because of their quantity, concentration, physical, chemical or infectious characteristics may pose a substantial or potential threat to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported or disposed of.

#### a. Infectious Waste

Infectious wastes include disposable equipment, utensils, and articles or substances that have been used or have come in contact with blood and/or other body fluids which may harbor or transmit pathogenic organisms.

#### b. Sharps

Sharps include needles, syringes, scalpels, lancets, blades, broken glass, any item made of hard plastic, or other material that can cause a cut or puncture.

#### c. Pathological Waste

Pathological waste consists of blood samples, blood clots and serum specimens. This should include any blood unit not fit for transfusion.

#### d. Chemical Waste

Any substance or solution that is flammable, reactive, corrosive, toxic, irritating or strongly sensitizing.



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Page 3 of 7

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Julito Santos RMT  
**Chief Medical Technologist**

Eric Mirandilla MD.  
**Pathologist**

Reviewed By:

Redentor P. Alquiroz, M.D.  
**Chief of Clinics**

Darius J. Sebastian, MD,MPH, PHSAE  
**Hospital Administrator**

**Approved by:**

Jefferson R. Pagsisihan, MD, MHM  
Hospital Director

## **II. Non-Hazardous Waste**

Non-hazardous waste is any substance which is not known to pose substantial potential hazards to human health or to the environment. Examples are paper and other office supplies, food, and other kitchen waste.

## **GUIDELINES ON WASTE DISPOSAL**

### **I. Use of Protective Equipment**

Water resistant utility gloves rather than latex or vinyl gloves shall be used for handling hazardous waste.

### **II. Segregation**

Segregation at the point of waste generation for classification and bagging in appropriate waste disposal bags or containers shall be done by the laboratory personnel or authorized housekeeping staff trained in waste management.

### **III. Treatment**

All infectious waste shall be decontaminated prior to packing by any of the following methods:

Chemical disinfection – by soaking for a minimum of eight (8) hours using any of the following disinfectants:

- Sodium hypochlorite solution with 0.1 to 0.5% available chlorine
- Ethyl alcohol/ethanol 70%
- Isopropyl alcohol/ isopropanol 70%
- Polyvidone iodine 2.5%
- Formaldehyde 4%



# OSPITAL NG PARAÑAQUE



Document Code: <b>OSPAR- ANCI- LAB-2022-09</b>
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Page 4 of 7
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- f. Glutaraldehyde 4%
- g. Hydrogen peroxide 6%

To maintain effectiveness, the disinfectants must be properly stored and freshly prepared using proper dilution.

All pathological wastes shall be decontaminated by autoclaving before disposal.

- a. Steamsterilization by autoclaving at  $121^{\circ}\text{C}$  for a minimum of 20 minutes.
- b. Sterilization by dry heat for two (2) hours at  $170^{\circ}\text{C}$ . This method is not suitable for reusable plastic items.

### IV. Packaging



Waste containers must be designed to maintain its integrity throughout handling, storage, transport and treatment.

### COLOR CODING OF DISPOSABLE BAGS / CONTAINERS

Separation of hazardous waste by color coding of disposal bags/containers will prevent unnecessary exposure to infectious waste. This will also facilitate waste disposal. As prescribed by the Department of Health, the color coding shall be as follows:

- Red** – sharps/needles
- Yellow** – infectious wastes
- Yellow with black band** – chemical waste
- Green** – non-infectious wet waste
- Black** – non-infectious dry waste

All sharps must be segregated from other waste and must be contained in rigid, leak-proof, puncture-resistant and properly labeled containers. The label should be intact from the site of origin to final disposal.

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		Page 5 of 7
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#### V. Temporary Storage Areas

All hospital/laboratory wastes should be disposed within 48 hours. The temporary storage areas should have appropriate ventilation, fire protection, security and containment system.

If a temporary storage area is not available, daily disposal should be enforced.

Storage areas should be located at a designated place not accessible to the public, preferably outside the hospital building but within the hospital premises. The storage area should be regularly treated with disinfectants and kept free of rodents and insects.

### WASTE COLLECTION AND TRANSPORTATION



Properly completed manifests and disposable records must be kept on file to document the transport, route and ultimate destination and disposal of waste.

### DISPOSAL

#### I. Sharps

Sharps contained in properly labeled puncture-resistant containers shall be disposed of by any of the following:

1. Disposal of waste materials (including needles and sharps) through regular collection of a private company duly licensed to operate for the collection, transportation and disposal of hospital waste products.
2. Buried within the hospital compound on an adequately secured and identified lot intended for the purpose.
3. Pulverization or incineration using a medical needle incinerator.

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## II. **Pathological Waste**

Pathological waste (blood sample, blood clots, and serum specimen) shall be chemically disinfected prior to incineration (see guidelines on Waste Disposal, Treatment).

Blood units not fit for transfusion nor for other scientific purposes shall be disposed of by similar methods for sharps as stated previously.

## III. **Infectious Waste**

Infectious waste shall be disposed of by similar methods for sharps as stated previously.

## IV. **Chemical Waste**

Toxic chemical waste must undergo a pre-treatment process prior to disposal such as incineration or autoclaving. Non-chemical hazardous wastes can be disposed of directly into the sink or treated as ordinary domestic waste.

## V. **Non-hazardous Waste**

Various methods for disposal of non-hazardous waste are applicable like the following:

1. Use of sanitary landfill
2. Composting of biodegradable waste materials
3. Recycling scheme for factory- returnable ,food-fermentable, fertilizer, fine



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Issue Date:
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Page 7 of 7
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**Julito Santos RMT**  
**Chief Medical Technologist**

**Eric Mirandilla MD.**  
**Pathologist**

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**Darius J. Sebastian, MD, MPH, PHSAE**  
**Hospital Administrator**

craft and filling materials

4. Where a municipal or city collection is available ,non-hazardous waste can be disposed of the same as domestic/municipality waste
5. Use of improvised incinerator or on-site enclosed burning vault with anti-pollution device