



**Hospitals for a Healthy Environment
A Compliance and Pollution Prevention Workshop &
Trade Show
Red Bag Reduction**

Enserv

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WHAT IS RED BAG WASTE??

- Sharps (Needles and syringes, scalpel blades, glass pipettes, slides, etc.)
- Laboratory Waste (Cultures and stocks of biohazard level 1, 2 ,3 infectious agents, test tubes)
- Contaminated Disposal Material, Equipment and instruments (Blood administration sets, drainage collection devices)
- Dialysis tubing and filters
- Blood, blood products
- **OSHA's Definition of Regulated Waste:**
- Regulated Waste means liquid or semi-liquid blood or *other potentially infectious materials* contaminated items that would release blood or other potentially infectious materials in a liquid or semi-liquid state if compressed; items that are caked with dried blood or other potentially infectious materials and are capable of releasing these materials during handling; contaminated sharps;and pathological and microbiological wastes containing blood or other potentially infectious materials.

The Real Deal



Defining the problem and cost

1. How much waste is my facility generating? 5 – 11% of your waste stream is considered red bag
2. Cost – 10 times more to dispose of then regular trash
3. Set the bench mark

H2E's Annual Facility and Goals Form

The Green Team

- Housekeeping – EVS Dir.
- Infection control
- Education Department
- Pharmacy
- Nurse Manager
- Laboratory, OR, ED/ER and Critical Care

Preparation

- Survey – Waste Audit and Container Placement
- Set the BENCH MARK – 3lb per patient per day
- Education and Signage

Preparation



KNOW WHERE to THROW!

BIOHAZARD RED BAG WASTE

- Fluid blood
- Blood-saturated items
- Bags and IV tubing containing blood products
- Suction canisters
- Hemovac
- Chest drainage units
- Hemodialysis products

THESE DON'T GO in the red bag:

- GARBAGE
- GARBAGE
- SHARPS
- PATHOLOGY SPECIMENS
- HAZARDOUS WASTE
- IV BAGS: Check your facility and/or procedure manual for disposal requirements of IV bags
- MEDICATION

4 EPA
Approved by EPA

For more information, contact: www.hazchem.org

Implementation

1. Train and Educate
2. Train and Educate
3. Train and Educate

When things go SOUTH

- Letter from the CEO.
- Departmentalize your facilities waste stream



Be Safe

**BETTER BE
SAFE
THEN
SORRY**

Reward

Please always
remember to show off
the success and
REWARD the staff



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