Section: Laboratory Wastes

Self-Audit
Tips, Action Steps & Resources

Determining if laboratory wastes are hazardous and/or dual wastes
Healthcare providers must evaluate all laboratory wastes to determine whether they are hazardous and/or dual hazardous and infectious wastes. Lab analyzers commonly generate wastes consisting of patient samples mixed with chemical reagents, calibration standards and cleaners. These wastes may be either piped directly to a drain or contained within cuvettes, cartridges, bubble tapes or removable containers. Evaluate each waste during the staining process at the point of generation before mingling or combining with other wastes to determine if it is hazardous.

Examples of hazardous laboratory wastes
Hazardous waste generated in a laboratory may include but is not limited to:

- B5 fixative
- Bilirubin reagent
- Clinitest tablets
- Clostridium difficile reagent
- Fetal cell stain kits (unused)
- Gram stain
- HemoCue cuvettes
- Hemocult developer
- Methylene blue (unused)
- Wright Giemsa Stain
- Zenker’s fixative

For more information
See MnTAP Laboratory Waste at [www.mntap.umn.edu/healthcarehw/medical/labwaste.html](http://www.mntap.umn.edu/healthcarehw/medical/labwaste.html).

Refer to the tips, action steps and resources to help you complete the audit.

1. Does your business conduct laboratory tests in your facility?
   - Yes. List the kinds of analyses done in the lab (e.g., creatin, urea, Wright stain, etc.), or attach a list:
     ________________________________
     ________________________________
     ________________________________
   - No, check all that apply:
     - Samples are collected on site but lab testing is done elsewhere.
     - Samples are not collected and no testing is done on site.
     - Other (describe): ________________________________

Evaluating your laboratory wastes
Your business must evaluate all laboratory wastes before disposal to determine whether they are hazardous. Each waste must be evaluated separately prior to any mixing. Any wastes that are not evaluated must be managed per Minn. Rule 7045.0214.

To evaluate your wastes:

- Make a list of all wastes generated by your lab, which may include but is not limited to:
  - Outdated or obsolete products
  - Waste discharged to the sanitary sewer
  - Recycled products
  - Wastes thrown in the garbage, red bag or sharps
- For each waste on the list, evaluate whether or not your waste is hazardous. Waste evaluations may consist of documentation from the manufacturer certifying that the spent chemicals, calibration standards and cleaners are or are not hazardous waste when spent, or by conducting appropriate lab tests. Your hazardous waste disposal services should be able to provide assistance in evaluating your waste, including analytical testing.

2. Does your laboratory generate any hazardous waste?
   - Yes. Fill out Management Plan Form 2 — Laboratory Wastes on page 2.
   - No. Your laboratory may be asked to submit an evaluation for each waste that includes the method of evaluation (i.e., lab testing, manufacturer certification, applying knowledge, etc.) for each waste and the disposal method for each waste.
Section: Laboratory Waste (continued)

Instructions for filling out the Management Plan Form 2

A. Waste name: Laboratory Wastes

B. Four-digit hazardous waste code: □ D001 □ D002 □ D003 □ D009 □ MN01 □ MN02 □ Other (if known, specify) __________________________

C. Year waste first generated: Estimate if unknown.

D. Shipment or treatment frequency: For example: 2 times per 1 year. Write “to be determined” if you are unsure how often the waste will be disposed.

G. Type of waste storage container: Storage containers must be:
   • Compatible with the waste (will not react with, be affected by, or absorb contents)
   • Sturdy and leak-proof (will not leak when overturned or bumped)

I. Amount generated per year: _____ gallons or ______ pounds

J. I understand and follow the requirements for proper labeling and storage:
   □ Labeled with the words “Hazardous Waste”
   □ Labeled with a clear description of the waste (e.g., Laboratory Waste)
   □ Labeled with the accumulation start date
   □ Container is closed

K. Disposal facility management method (contact your disposal company if unknown)
   □ Recycle □ Incinerate □ Burn as fuel
   □ Have not yet identified a disposal company □ Other __________________

L. Transporter name*: ____________________________________________
   or □ Self □ To be determined*

M. Transporter EPA ID number: __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

N. Disposer name*: ____________________________________________
   or □ To be determined*

O. Disposer EPA ID number: __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

Office use only
Phys. state: Organic liquid Storage container: Reporting
Inv. ID: Billing code: Disposal method:
Date entry & initials: Waste inactive:

www.hennepin.us/selfaudit Hazardous waste self-audit report—Return all sections 2 of 2