



Department
of Health

Ebola Preparedness–Waste Management

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Requirements for Regulated Medical Waste (RMW)

10 NYCRR Part 70

Subpart 70-1 Application and Definitions

Subpart 70-2 Management of Regulated Medical Waste

Subpart 70-3 Requirements for Autoclaves Used to Treat Regulated Medical Waste

Applies to hospitals, residential health care facilities, diagnostic and treatment centers, clinical laboratories



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Requirements for Regulated Medical Waste (RMW)

10 NYCRR Part 70

Subpart 70-2 Management of Regulated Medical Waste

70-2.1 Waste management plan

70-2.2 Containment and storage

70-2.3 Treatment and disposal

70-2.4 Transfer of regulated medical waste for off-site treatment

70-2.5 Record keeping



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Waste Management Plan

A waste management plan describes the policies and procedures for the management of regulated medical waste that is generated on-site.

Should be site specific.

Should be detailed so that staff can follow the procedures.

In general a waste management plan describes:

- The types of waste being generated.
- Methods for treatment and disposal.
- Procedures for safe handling and transport of the waste within the facility from the point of generation or intake to the point of storage and/or treatment.
- Storage areas, including the location, ventilation and capacity of each storage area, and the length of time waste is to be retained in each area.



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Impact of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) on the Management of RMW

1. Waste management companies that routinely transport autoclaved RMW are not accepting autoclaved EVD RMW from facilities.
2. Many waste management companies that routinely treat RMW by autoclaving or incineration are not accepting EVD RMW for treatment.
3. Untreated EVD RMW has been designated as a Category A agent and requires special packaging and permits before it can be transported.
4. Some local municipalities are not allowing liquid or semi-liquid EVD RMW to be discharge into a sanitary sewerage system that is connected to a secondary treatment facility.



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Impact of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) on the Management of RMW

As a consequence, each facility needs to look at their current waste management plan and determine how EVD RMW will be managed.

Components of an EVD RMW Waste Management Plan



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Components of an EVD RMW Waste Management Plan

- A. Provide a description of the types of waste that would be generated during the care of a suspected or confirmed EVD patient.



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Components of an EVD RMW Waste Management Plan

Types of EVD RMW

- Patient specimens collected for laboratory testing
- Waste generated from the testing of patient specimens in the laboratory
- Waste generated from any invasive procedures
- Personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Single use devices
- Disposable commodes, bed pans and/or urinals
- Items used for environmental cleaning and disinfection
- Sheets, food items, feces, urine, cubicle curtain, supplies, any/all other disposable items
- Stained ceiling tiles
- Mattress covers
- Mattresses with cracks/ tears/ penetrations
- Feces, urine and vomit, and liquid waste from washing
- Sharp objects (e.g. needles, syringes, glass articles) and tubing that has been in contact with the bloodstream
- All items in contact with the patient
- Furniture that has become compromised
- Disposable food trays, dishes, and cutlery
- Disposable dedicated medical equipment
- Materials used to clean up spills of infectious body fluids



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Components of an EVD RMW Waste Management Plan

B. Provide a procedure describing how EVD RMW will be packaged.

- The procedures should be consistent with USDOT packaging requirements for the transportation of untreated Category A RMW. Each facility should consult with the waste management company that they are working with to confirm that appropriate protocols are being used.
- The procedures should contain information detailing where each step of the packaging is being performed (e.g., in the patient room, the laboratory, an ante-room, warm, or cold area). It is highly recommended that waste be double bagged in accordance with DOT requirements in hot areas and transferred to a warm or cold area for packaging into the category A barrel.



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Components of an EVD RMW Waste Management Plan

Packaging cont.

- The procedures should include a description of PPE that is used for packaging and disposal of the PPE.
- If liquid waste will be packaged, include procedures for the packaging of liquid waste and if a solidifier is used, how liquids will be solidified and packaged. If pre-treatment is being used before disposal into the sewer, these protocols need to be included.
- Sharps waste must be packaged in an FDA-cleared sharps disposal container that is securely closed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to prevent leaks and punctures and placed inside the inner bags.



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Components of an EVD RMW Waste Management Plan

C. Handling and Transportation of EVD RMW within the facility

Provide policies and procedures for the transport of the EVD RMW from the point of generation to the point of storage/disposal. Point of generation may include the following:

- The patent isolation room; describe flow of waste within the unit
- The testing laboratories
- The emergency department
- Outpatient settings

If a contractor will be used to perform packaging and transport within the facility, the company's policies and procedures may be incorporated into the facilities procedures.



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Components of an EVD RMW Waste Management Plan

D. Storage of EVD RMW

Provide a description of the areas where waste will be stored, the length of time the waste will be stored, the capacity for the storage area and information pertaining to ventilation and environmental control. This would include areas such as the patient room, the testing labs, the emergency department, outpatient settings and areas for long term storage.



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Components of an EVD RMW Waste Management Plan

E. Details on transportation of EVD RMW for off-site treatment

Provide information on who will transport EVD RMW for treatment off-site including the name and contact information of the company.

F. Responsible Parties

Include names and contact information of staff responsible for monitoring compliance of the plan.



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Other Considerations

Use of contracted services for:

- packaging of EVD RMW
- environmental cleaning (daily and/or terminal cleaning)



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Useful Links

Interim Guidance for Environmental Infection Control in Hospitals for Ebola Virus
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/environmental-infection-control-in-hospitals.html>

Ebola-Associated Waste Management
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/medical-waste-management.html>

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/prevention/ebola-associated-waste.html>

Packaging and Handling Ebola Virus Contaminated Infectious Waste for
Transportation to Disposal Sites
<http://phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/packaging-of-ebola-contaminated-waste>

