



## DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STATION NEWPORT  
690 PEARY STREET  
NEWPORT, RI 02841-1522

IN REPLY REFER TO:

NAVSTANPTIINST 5090.12B  
ENV

**JUN 13 2011**

NAVAL STATION (NAVSTA) NEWPORT INSTRUCTION 5090.12B

Subj: REGULATED MEDICAL WASTES (RMW)

Ref: (a) Rules and Regulations Governing the Generation, Transportation, Storage, Treatment, Management and Disposal of Regulated Medical Waste in Rhode Island (DEM-DAH-MW-01-2009) as amended July 2010  
(b) BUMEDINST 6280.1A  
(c) NACCNPTINST 6320.66E

1. Purpose. To establish the procedures to be used in the handling and disposal of RMW.
2. Cancellation. NAVSTANPT/LOCAL AREA RI COORDINST 5090.12A.
3. Background. Reference (a) outlines the state of Rhode Island's specific requirements regarding RMW. Reference (b) provides the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery's guidelines for the management of medical waste at medical and dental facilities staffed with Department of the Navy medical personnel.
4. Information. Naval Heath Clinic New England (NHCNE) Newport is the source of the majority of RMW generated at NAVSTA and has arranged for the removal and disposal of RMW by an outside contractor. RMW generated by NAVSTA tenant commands shall be transported to NHCNE Newport for disposal. Medical personnel at the Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) and the Rhode Island National Guard (RING) both located in Providence are supported by NHCNE. For purposes of RMW, AFRC and RING are registered as satellite facilities of NAVSTA and shall also transport their RMW to NHCNE for collection and disposal.
5. Definition. RMW are any wastes generated in the diagnosis, treatment or immunization of human beings or animals. These include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Discarded live and attenuated vaccines.
  - b. Human pathological wastes.

- c. Human blood and body fluids.
- d. Sharps (even if discarded unused).

Unregulated material mixed with regulated medical wastes and material collected during a cleanup of a spill of RMW shall be treated as RMW.

6. Procedures

a. Segregation. RMW shall be segregated from the general waste stream into the following categories:

- (1) Used and unused sharps.
- (2) Fluids in bulk quantities (greater than 20 cubic centimeters).
- (3) Other medical wastes.

b. Packaging. In general, RMW shall be packaged in rigid, leak-resistant containers that are impervious to moisture and strong enough to prevent tearing or bursting under normal conditions of use and handling. The specifics of this packaging varies among the categories of RMW as discussed above.

(1) Discard sharps and unused sharps directly into rigid, puncture-resistant sharps containers. These containers shall be labeled with the Universal Biohazard Symbol. Never clip, cut, bend or recap needles. Close the containers securely when they are three-quarters full. The outside of the container must bear the closure date and the name and address of the facility that generated the waste.

(2) Human blood and bodily fluids in quantities greater than 20 cubic centimeters shall be packaged in containers that are break-resistant and tightly stoppered or lidded. These containers shall be labeled with the Universal Biohazard Symbol.

(3) Other RMW shall be placed in red plastic bags. After closure, they shall be double bagged, sealed and placed in a cardboard box which will also be sealed securely. Packaging for all categories of RMW shall be clearly labeled with the generator's name, address, phone number and date.

c. Transport. RMW originating at sources other than NHCNE Newport shall be transported to NHCNE Newport by government personnel in a government vehicle. The RMW shall be delivered to the NHCNE laboratory for collection and disposal.

(1) Sharps will be transported to NHCNE Newport when sharps containers are at least three-quarters full.

(2) Other RMW will be transported to NHCNE Newport within five days of generation unless the quantity collected is not large enough to warrant disposal.

## 7. Action

a. NHCNE Newport shall act as a central collection point for RMW generated by tenant commands of NAVSTA, Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC) Division Newport, Naval Criminal Investigative Service Northeast Field Office, AFRC and RING. The NHCNE Newport shall:

(1) Arrange for the disposal of RMW collected.

(2) Ensure that personnel who transport RMW to NHCNE Newport have been trained in the appropriate procedures.

(3) Maintain central collection point logs, containing at a minimum, the date of receipt, quantity of waste accepted by weight and by category (e.g., treated or untreated), address of original generation point and signature of central collection point operator.

(4) Train and document the training of personnel who handle RMW in the procedures discussed above and in references (a) through (c).

(5) Maintain all applicable documentation for no less than 405 days.

b. NAVSTA and tenant commands that generate RMW (primarily the Naval Dental Center NE, Dental Clinic Annex, NAVSTA Veterinary Clinic and NUWC) shall:

(1) Deliver RMW to NHCNE Newport laboratory as discussed above.

(2) Train and document the training of personnel who handle RMW in the procedures discussed above and in references (a) and (b).

(3) Coordinate with NHCNE Newport to ensure that personnel who transport RMW to NHCNE Newport have been trained in the appropriate procedures.

c. NAVSTA Port Operations shall coordinate the transport of RMW from visiting ships to the NHCNE Newport laboratory.

d. NAVSTA RMW satellite facilities, AFRC and RING shall:

(1) Deliver RMW to the NHCNE Newport laboratory as discussed above.

(2) Coordinate with NHCNE Newport to ensure that personnel who transport RMW to NHCNE Newport have been trained in the appropriate procedures.

(3) Maintain original generation logs containing at least the date of delivery, quantity of waste accepted by weight and by category (e.g., treated or untreated), address of central collection point and signature of personnel delivering RMW.

(4) Train and document the training of personnel who handle RMW in the procedures discussed above and in references (a) and (b).



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