

Leamington Mennonite Home
Long Term Care

**INFECTION CONTROL
POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

CATEGORY: Housekeeping/Laundry Department	SUBJECT: Waste Management: General & Biomedical	SECTION: J POLICY: 13
DATE: July 12, 2022	Administrator's Signature: _____ <i>J. M.</i>	
REVISION DATES: January 2024	IPAC Lead's Signature: _____ <i>L. Coppola, R.N.</i>	

WASTE MANAGEMENT: GENERAL & BIOMEDICAL

POLICY:

General and biomedical waste will be handled and disposed of in a manner that reduces the risk of cross contamination and disease transmissions.

DEFINITIONS:

General Waste includes:

- Items such as dressings, sponges, incontinent products, disposable PPE, empty IV bags and tubing, catheters, etc.
- Waste from Contact, Droplet, and Airborne Precaution rooms
- Waste from offices, kitchens, washrooms, public areas

Biomedical Waste includes:

- Blood products, blood contaminated body fluids, items saturated and dripping with blood
- Used sharps: needles, blades, syringes, and full sharps containers
- Body fluid filled containers that cannot be emptied, e.g., disposable suction bottles, VAC containers

PROCEDURE:

All staff will:

- 1) Follow Routine Practices when handling waste and use PPE appropriate to the risks.
- 2) Place all general waste into the regular garbage containers.

- 3) Treat biomedical waste in the approved manner by double bagging and disposing in the yellow biomedical waste bags which are placed into the puncture-resistant boxes, both labeled 'Biohazardous'.
- 4) Line all general waste containers with leak proof bags.
- 5) Handle all waste with a minimum of agitation and shaking. Avoid compacting waste in bags with hands or feet.
- 6) Report and document any sharps found in the general waste containers.
- 7) Don PPE and wipe waste receptacles with an Oxivir disinfectant cloth prior to changing the liner.
- 8) Waste is to be transported in leak-proof, covered carts that are cleaned weekly and as needed. Carts are located in the Soiled Utility Rooms. Garbage bags will not be allowed to accumulate in a resident area. When bringing waste down the elevator, it should not be at the same time residents, visitors, food serving carts or clean instruments/supplies/linens are also being transported.

The Maintenance staff will:

- 1) Monitor the Waste Management contractor pick up of Home waste weekly.
- 2) Maintain and secure the waste collection areas in a manner that discourages flies and rodents.
- 3) Monitor that the outdoor receptacle for Waste Management is kept clean.