

ISM-177

LABORATORY PERSONNEL

September 2008

INFECTIOUS LIQUID WASTE DISPOSAL

Laboratory waste known to be or potentially contaminated with infectious material is considered to be special medical waste. A special medical waste program has been developed in coordination with the U. S. Army Garrison, which meets all federal and state requirements. All NCI-Frederick laboratories are required to autoclave or otherwise render noninfectious all potentially infectious waste before it leaves the area.

All potentially infectious liquid wastes must be appropriately disinfected before discharge to the sanitary sewer system. The use of 5.25% sodium hypochlorite (household bleach) at a 1:10 final solution (9 parts liquid waste to 1 part bleach) is effective against most microorganisms. Allow for a 20 to 30 minute contact time before material is disposed down the sanitary sewer system. Other liquid disinfectants may be used with prior approval of EHS (x1451).