### UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

SUBJECT: DISPOSAL AND TRANSPORTATION OF SHARPS Procedure No: HM-08-020

#### PROCEDURE STATEMENT

Standard procedures for the disposal of sharps (needles, syringes with needles, syringes without needles, blades, etc.), both contaminated and non-contaminated, in accordance with EPA, NIOSH and OSHA criteria.

#### **PURPOSE**

must be used, or needle-safe technologies should be utilized.

- Approved sharps disposal containers are available, via request, from Environmental Health and Radiation Safety
  on the Health Science Campus and from research supply vendors for the research laboratories. Sharps
  containers for some applications (large sharps disposal) require the individual University Medical Center
  department to purchase the containers via Central Supply.
- 4. After use, all disposable syringes with needles, needles, lancets and scalpel blades must be placed in the approved needle sharps disposal containers. All small pieces of glass contaminated with blood or body fluid will be placed in sharps disposal containers. All needle-safe shield devices must be activated immediately after use and placed in sharps containers.
- 5. Approved sharps containers must be:
  - a. Closeable, puncture proof, and leak proof on side and bottom.
  - b. Easily accessible and located as close as is feasible to area being used.
  - c. Universal biohazard logo affixed and/or color coded in red.
  - d. Translucent so as to be able to see how full the container is.
  - e. Stands upright, and not easily knocked over, "stands or reservoirs ("dog dishes") shall be used when available, or mounted to wall or other suitable vertical surface.
  - f. Mounted on wall height shall be between 52"-56" (for top), sitting on table 38"-42" (for top).
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## Disposal of Sharps Page 2

- e. Ensure contaminated reusable sharps are delivered to Sterile Processing at the end of each day.
- f. Reusable bins are to be cleaned and decontaminated as soon as feasible or afteruse.

## **Syringes without Needles**

# Non-Contaminated Sharps

- 1. All non-contaminated sharps (syringes with needles, needles, blades, etc.) shall be disposed of to approved sharps disposal containers.
- 2. Clean, empty, broken non-coontaminated of the contaminated of t

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