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| DATE: | AUGUST 1, 2013 |
| NUMBER: | M.41 |
| SUBJECT: | INFECTION CONTROL: MEDICAL WASTE |
| RELATED SECTIONS: | MSD.M.8 , CCR Title 15, Sec. 1206; H & S 117600-118360; S.D. County Ordinance 9293 |

PURPOSE

To ensure proper handling of medical and hazardous waste, as well as prevention and control of infection.

POLICY

Biomedical waste shall be contained in locked dumpsters. Biohazardous waste shall be disposed of in an approved lawful manner.

PROCEDURE

I. BIOMEDICAL WASTE

Biomedical Waste is any waste that is generated by or has been used in the diagnosis, treatment or immunization of human beings or animals, in research pertaining thereto, in the production or testing of biologicals, or which may contain infectious agents and may pose a substantial threat to health. Biomedical waste does not include biohazardous waste.

1. The deputy in charge of trash detail shall ensure that all biomedical waste is placed in a locked trash container.
2. A locked dumpster may be obtained by contacting the dumpster provider.

II. BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE

Biohazardous Waste materials are recognizable fluid blood elements and regulated body fluids, containers and articles contaminated with blood elements, or regulated body fluids that readily separate from the solid portion of the waste under ambient temperature and pressure. Regulated body fluids are blood, semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluids, pleural fluid, peritoneal fluid, pericardial fluid, amniotic fluid, and any body fluid that is contaminated with blood.

1. The medical staff is responsible for the disposal of all Biohazardous Waste generated by the medical unit, which shall include but not limited to: needles, syringes, sharps, and/or red bag waste.
2. The medical staff may provide guidance to Sheriff's non-medical personnel regarding appropriate cleaning and handling of Biohazardous waste in the facility.

3. Biohazardous waste shall be placed in a marked, locked container, in a specified, locked area.

III. BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE WARNING SIGNS

A. Biohazardous Waste signs shall be posted using the following language:

1. English, "Caution-Biohazardous waste storage area. Unauthorized persons keep out."
2. Spanish, "Cuidado-Zona de residuos (infectados) prohibida la entrada a personas no autorizadas."

B. Warning signs shall be readily legible during daylight from a distance of at least 25 feet.

IV. WASTE REMOVAL

A contracted Biohazardous waste hauler shall remove biohazardous waste from the premises. Sworn staff will control the access for removal. The driver of the specialized collection truck shall present a receipt to the deputy in charge of the secured area. The receipt shall be forwarded to the facility medical supervisor/designee.