

### Quick Reminders:

1. **ORANGE** biohazardous waste bags are **ILLEGAL** in California. Using them can lead to regulatory fines.
2. **RED** biohazardous waste bags **MUST** be **Dual-Tested** (ASTM D1709 and ASTM D1922) to be compliant.
3. Refer to the [UCR Laboratory Waste Disposal Requirements](#) for further information on disposing different types of laboratory wastes like pharmaceutical, liquid, sharps, and biohazardous medical waste.
4. Biohazardous waste best practices to ensure compliance:
  - a. Double bag your waste and tie it off to prevent leakage or expulsion of contents.
  - b. Label the outer bag with PI name, building, and room # prior to using it.

## What is Considered Biohazardous Waste?

Biohazardous waste includes materials with recombinant or synthetic nucleic acids, or any known or suspected *infectious agent* present in biological materials, fluids or media, carcasses, and blood or blood products. Culture dishes, plates, and flasks, plants or animals with recombinant/synthetic DNA, soil, and other materials that come into contact with these items including sharps, are also considered biohazardous waste.

Medical waste includes all waste generated from research involving the treatment, diagnosis or immunization of humans or animals, including the production or testing of biologicals. Please refer to the [UCR Medical Waste Management Plan](#) for further information.



## Compliant Benchtop Biohazardous Waste Bins



### To meet Compliance:

- Benchtop biohazardous waste bins must be rigid, leak-resistant containers made of nonporous materials with a tight-fitting lid.
- Biohazard stickers (can be provided by EH&S) on all four sides and lid so as to be visible from any direction.
- Must be lined with biohazardous waste bags meeting ASTM D1709 and ASTM D1922 standards (dual-tested)

## CONTACT US

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# Questions?

### Non-Compliant Tabletop Biohazardous Waste Bins



#### Common Non-Compliant Tabletop Bins:

- Swing lids do not meet compliance for biohazardous waste (not tight-fitting and potentially aerosol generating)
- Biohazardous waste bag stands do not provide for a rigid container
- Cardboard is porous and not leak-resistant

**ALL of these examples are NOT compliant with the California Medical Waste Management Act.**

### Biohazardous or Chemical Waste?

To ensure compliance and proper waste management, laboratory waste should be segregated and disposed according to guidelines outlined in the [Hazardous Materials and Waste Management training](#) on UC Learning Center.

#### Helpful Reminders:

1. For mixed waste such as chemical and biological, waste should be treated as chemical waste based on hierarchy of waste segregation and management principles (radiological > chemical > biological).
2. Refer to [the Hazardous Waste Determination Guidance](#) if unsure how to categorize your waste.
  - a. For example, *Ethidium Bromide* gels and *Phenol Chloroform* extracts are **Chemical waste**, not **Biohazardous waste**, and should be disposed of as chemical waste using [WASTE](#).
3. New rectangular biohazardous waste bins (pictured on right), same waste pickup process.
  - a. For further information on biohazardous waste management at UCR, please refer to the [UCR EH&S Website](#).



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