Disposal of Non-Infectious Human Stool Samples

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# Purpose

<<<< This SOP is left in DOCX format so that you may edit it for your own laboratory>>>

The purpose of this SOP is to lay out the responsibilities, equipment and procedures required for disposal of non-infectious human stool samples.

# Scope

This SOP applies to all persons and their Supervisors in any containment zone required to dispose of non-infectious human stool samples.

This SOP applies to all **Hamilton Health Sciences** locations. This SOP (at this time) does not apply to any other location and those non-infectious human stool samples are to be disposed as biomedical waste.

This SOP does not apply to disposal of infectious stool samples from any source. Please dispose infectious stool samples as biomedical waste.

# Responsibilities

## Supervisors

Supervisors are responsible for:

* **Reviewing this SOP on a regular basis. Review is to consider and mitigate the risks of spill, loss of containment and exposure or other harm. Refer to Performing Risk Assessments SOP.**
* Ensuring training, personal protective equipment and disposal supplies and procedures are provided for the workers.
* Ensure the workers are trained and proficient in performing the steps of this SOP.

## Workers

Workers are responsible for:

* Following this SOP as approved by their Supervisor.
* Reporting any issues with personal protective equipment, waste closets, disposal supplies and incidents immediately to their supervisor.

# Hazards

* Unpleasant odours

# Personal Protective Equipment

* Gloves
* Lab coat
* Close toed shoes
* Safety glasses

# Equipment

* Fume hood
* Double plastic bag
* Extra plastic bag for patient labels
* Absorbent materials

# Procedure

* Set up double lined plastic bag in a fume hood.
* Layer the bottom of the plastic bag with paper towel or other absorbent material.
* Bring the stool samples to the fume hood and remove all patient identification labels. Collect patient identification labels into a third plastic bag. Patient identification labels are to be destroyed.
* Deposit stool samples into double bag.
* Do not over-fill, do not make heavy. Ideally the bag should way 10 pounds or less.
* Push all the air out of the bag and tie tightly.
* Remove gloves and wash hands.
* Call housekeeping for your building (MUMC 77744) to come and pick up stool samples for regular waste. DO NOT LEAVE THIS BAG IN THE WASTE CLOSET.