COVID-19 WASTE AND LINEN REMOVAL, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE

Purpose

To provide a procedure for safe, proper handling of waste and linen used by COVID-19 patients.

Equipment

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) which includes Gloves and Isolation Gown.
- Stericycle provided transport/storage containers.

Cleaning Products

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Registered Antimicrobial Products for Use Against Novel Coronavirus SRAS-CoV-2, the cause of COVID-19

Supplies

- Red regulated medical waste bags (RMW)

Responsibility

1. It is the responsibility of Environmental Service to complete the daily and discharge cleaning of rooms designated Novel Coronavirus SRAS-CoV-2 positive.

2. All Environmental Service Team members entering a room designated Novel Coronavirus SRAS-CoV-2 positive shall follow the facility’s process for signing into and out of the rooms.

Handling of Regulated Medical Waste

1. Perform hand hygiene.
2. Dispose of regulated medical waste into red bag and tie off bag properly.
3. While wearing gloves, they should gather the bag edges and twist the top of the bag to seal the contents. Make a strong, hand-tied single or gooseneck knot to prevent any leakage. You can also use a zip tie or tape to secure the knot if that’s easier.
4. If transporting waste through the medical facility the entire outside of the bag should be wiped down using Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Registered Antimicrobial Products for Use against Novel Coronavirus SRAS-CoV-2, the cause of COVID-19.
5. If possible, place red regulated medical waste bag into unsealed box/container provided by Stericycle and seal container prior to transporting to the facility’s designated storage area.
Handling of Single Use Sharps Containers and Reusable Sharps Containers

1. Close container per manufacturer’s instructions or seal reusable containers with red cap.
2. Place closed container in a red bag and tie off bag properly.
3. Place tied bag into current regulated medical waste containers provided by Stericycle.
4. Close and seal box/container; no additional marking instructions are required as previously Communicated.

Pathological Waste, Trace Chemotherapy Waste, and Pharmaceutical Waste

1. Follow current, standard procedures and Stericycle’s Waste Acceptance Policy.

Laboratory Waste

1. Follow current, standard procedures and Stericycle’s Waste Acceptance Policy.

For questions, please email Stericycle at:
Ask-Regulatory@Stericycle.com

Handling of Linen

1. Perform hand hygiene.
2. “Confirmed Positive” is defined as one positive COVID-19 test result which then requires confirmation by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). If a patient’s tests result in a “Confirmed Positive” the linen will be treated as regulated medical waste.
3. If the patient’s tests DOES NOT result in a “Confirmed Positive” the linen will be double bagged in (2) clear plastic can liners and treated as soiled linen.
4. If transporting linen through the medical facility the entire outside of the bag should be wiped down using Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Registered Antimicrobial Products for Use against Novel Coronavirus SRAS-CoV-2, the cause of COVID-19.
5. Reusable curtains will be treated as curtains being removed from a room under contact isolation. The curtain shall be removed and bagged separately from all other curtains.