Purpose
This SOP describes the proper procedure for collection and disposal of pathological waste.

Safety Precautions
1. Follow the Laboratory Safety Manual or Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for working with pathological waste.
2. Wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as required by the Laboratory Safety Manual.

Definition
Pathological waste is defined as any human or animal body parts. This includes:
- Organs
- Tissue
- Surgical specimens
- Bodily fluids

Disposal Procedures
1. Place pathological waste and heavily soiled materials in an orange bag that is secured in an orange container. The container is supplied with a lid that should be closed when not in use.
2. Do not put regular waste in the orange bag. Items such as paper towels, wrapping paper, and note paper should be placed in the regular trash.
3. The bag should be loosely filled and not more than three quarters full.
4. Seal the bag.
5. Place sharp objects (i.e., needles, scalpel blades) in a sharps container.
6. Do not recap needles prior to placing in the sharps container.
7. Do not fill the container past the indicated full line.
8. Notify the Spokane lab services group (merle.heineke@wsu.edu, 509-358-7889) that the bag or sharps container is ready to be picked up.