



## Purpose

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

## Safety Precautions

1. Follow the Laboratory Safety Manual or Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) 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 fixed human body parts and fixed or unfixed animal body parts. This includes:

- Organs
- Tissue
- Surgical specimens
- Body fluids not covered under the bloodborne pathogen standard
- Lab consumables heavily soiled with pathological materials, such as gloves

Pathological waste is NOT:

- Biohazardous waste, including:
  - Unfixed human tissue
  - Blood or body fluids covered under the bloodborne pathogen standard
- Sharps waste, including:
  - Needles
  - Scalpels
- Autoclavable waste not heavily contaminated with pathological materials, including gloves and other lab consumables.
- Regular trash or recycling

## Disposal Procedures

1. Place solid pathological waste and heavily soiled materials in an orange bag that is secured in an orange container. Place liquid pathological waste in a durable, leakproof orange container labelled for pathological waste. Both solid and liquid waste containers are supplied with a lid that should be closed when not in use.
2. When bags or bottles are three quarters full, stop collection and seal the container.
3. Notify Spokane Lab Services ([olga.shiva@wsu.edu](mailto:olga.shiva@wsu.edu) or [will.clegern@wsu.edu](mailto:will.clegern@wsu.edu); ext 8-7621) that the container is ready to be picked up.