Dispose safely of biomedical specimens and samples



Overview

This standard has abroad application and is relevant for all methods of biomedical specimens and samples disposal.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

Dispose safely of biomedical specimens and samples

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 follow the appropriate standing operating procedures, policies and protocols for the method of collection and biological containment level
- P2 communicate required information to others clearly, accurately and in a timely fashion
- P3 ensure `chain of custody' is maintained, where appropriate
- P4 differentiate between specimens/samples which do and do not need to be retained in accordance with relevant guidelines
- P5 determine the most appropriate disposal method for specimen/sample type and associated risks
- P6 wear suitable protective clothing when disposing of specimens
- P7 dispose of specimens safely in accordance with local procedures and current national and international guidelines
- P8 complete relevant records of disposal accurately and store in correct data management system for access by authorised personnel

Dispose safely of biomedical specimens and samples

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 relevant statutory, regulatory and legislative requirements and guidance
- K2 the relevant standard operating procedures, policies and their importance
- K3 your limitations to practice and an understanding of the importance of working within these in a clinical context
- K4 how to communicate with individuals to explain procedures and reassure, including those with special needs
- K5 procedures for release of samples to third parties
- K6 health and safety procedures for disposal of specimens
- K7 the type and requirements for records relating to disposal of specimens
- K8 types and range of equipment associated with disposal of specimens their correct and safe use
- K9 hazards and risks associated with the disposal of specimens

Dispose safely of biomedical specimens and samples

Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB8 Biomedical investigation and intervention

Dispose safely of biomedical specimens and samples

Developed by	Skills for Health
Version number	1
Date approved	June 2010
Indicative review date	June 2012
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating organisation	Skills for Health
Original URN	CHS187
Relevant occupations	Health, Public Services and Care; Medicine and Dentistry; Nursing and Subjects and Vocations Allied; Healthcare and Related Personal Services
Suite	Clinical Health Skills
Key words	Disposal, Sample, Specimen