

MEDI-BITS

Medi-Waste Tid Bits



Volume 1, Issue 1

Spring 2015

We hope you enjoy our inaugural issue of **Medi-Bits**. Our goal is to share with you some valuable information and offer light entertainment. As always, we thank you for your business.

David Kreller – President

Feature Article — EBOLA

By: Rose Kreller, APRN, MSN

We have all become aware of the deadly Ebola virus and the need for appropriate preparedness in healthcare facilities. This includes diagnosing patients and recognizing contacts, responding with isolation of those patients and prevention of transmission of the virus through infection control and proper handling of waste.



Picture of the Ebola virus

Ebola is a Category A Infectious Substance and regulated under the DOT Hazardous Material Regulation. Category A infectious waste differs from “regulated medical waste” in that it poses greater hazards and requires more stringent handling and packaging requirements not included in “regulated medical waste.” As such, Medi-Waste is unable to accept any Category A Waste.

Ebola is transmitted via blood or body fluids (including but not limited to urine, saliva, sweat, feces, vomit, breast milk and semen) of a person who is sick with Ebola. It is not spread through air or water.

The disease can spread quickly in healthcare settings when appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) is not used. Proper cleaning, disinfection and disposal of instruments and waste is key. Standard, contact and droplet infection control precautions are recommended. PPE guidelines apply to all healthcare personnel who have the potential for exposure to patients, body substances, contaminated equipment/supplies, contaminated environmental surfaces and waste generated in the care of these patients.

(Continued on reverse)

Medi-Waste Training Services

When addressing regulated medical waste, employee training remains a fundamental element in workplace hazard control and safety. Medi-Waste is ready to help you with your training needs.

We offer a variety of programs, some of which are included in your service contract. We also can provide some training programs via webinar or teleconference.

Programs offered include:

- Regulated Medical Waste: The Basics
- Infection Control and Regulated Medical Waste * (1 CEU for RN/LPN staff)
- Blood borne Pathogens and Exposure Control Plan *(1 CEU for RN/LPN staff)
- Annual Update on Blood borne Pathogens, Infection Control and Hazard Communication
- Pharmaceutical Waste Training

Several of our programs were designed and developed based on customer request. We can work with you to create a program specific to your needs.

Call today for more information and to schedule training for your company!

FUN FACTS

- ◆ The average pencil can draw a line 35 miles long.
- ◆ Broccoli was first introduced to the US in the 1920's.
- ◆ Bird's eyes can keep everything in focus at all times.
- ◆ Both Paul Newman and Mr. Rogers were colorblind.
- ◆ In 1992, Barbie came out with her own exercise video.
- ◆ Rod Stewart once worked as a grave digger.
- ◆ Red blood cells live for 4 months.
- ◆ It is impossible to lick your own elbow.

MEDI PUZZLER

P	T	D	T	R	E	E	W	V	S	O	M	P	K	B	
T	H	M	E	B	V	S	Y	P	H	Y	M	A	V	W	BIOHAZARD
M	R	A	O	T	S	T	L	L	A	J	F	T	T	F	DISPOSAL
D	D	L	R	S	A	A	G	J	R	T	H	H	W	X	EBOLA
D	A	R	I	M	S	L	J	S	P	A	A	O	I	W	KDHE
R	Y	E	E	O	A	W	U	M	S	C	J	L	G	A	MEDICAL
G	N	A	P	D	U	C	E	G	C	Y	Y	O	N	K	MEDIWASTE
H	K	S	P	O	B	D	E	S	E	X	H	G	I	J	OSHA
R	I	W	V	P	I	A	V	U	C	R	H	I	N	W	PATHOLOGICAL
D	B	M	J	W	J	U	G	F	T	P	L	C	I	M	PHARMACEUTICAL
E	L	B	A	Y	N	T	G	M	A	I	F	A	A	F	REDBAG
W	H	S	M	E	D	I	C	A	L	H	C	L	R	O	REGULATED
A	T	D	D	R	A	Z	A	H	O	I	B	A	T	B	SHARPS
E	E	S	K	G	A	H	S	O	G	Z	L	C	L	E	TRAINING
J	F	F	P	R	O	L	I	M	L	F	D	G	Z	L	



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Feature Article — EBOLA cont.

What are key points in safe handling and management of Ebola waste?

- Wear recommended PPE during environmental cleaning and disinfection activities. PPE should be donned and doffed (on/off) in a designated area that allows for clear separation between clean and potentially contaminated area. Rigorous and repeated training in PPE is vital.
- Use of EPA registered hospital disinfectant with a label claim for non-enveloped virus. Ebola is an enveloped virus and susceptible to a broad range of disinfectants (i.e. bleach). Non enveloped viruses are more resistant to disinfectants. As a precaution, selection of a disinfectant product with a higher potency is recommended.
- Safe containment of waste should be performed as close as possible to the point of generation.
- Limit personnel handling generated waste.
- Identify a dedicated staff in your facility with training on procedures for handling waste. Contact your local health department and KDHE if you believe you have this type of waste. Onsite deactivation and disposal of Ebola waste is favored thus eliminating transportation risks.

Various resources are available for facilities, including Fact Sheets on PPE, Cleaning and Decontamination, Safe Handling of Ebola Waste, etc. through WWW.OSHA.GOV or WWW.CDC.GOV