

**OLIVE VIEW-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER
INFECTION CONTROL MANUAL
POLICY & PROCEDURE**

**NUMBER: 5980
VERSION: 2**

SUBJECT/TITLE: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES HANDLING OF PLACENTAS
INFECTION CONTROL

POLICY: Waste placentas shall be managed as pathology waste.

PURPOSE: To establish the manner in which waste placentas are to be handled from the point of origin until removal.

DEPARTMENTS: Environmental Services, Infection Control

DEFINITIONS:

PROCEDURE:

- 1) Placentas will be placed in a clear container by the Nursing staff. The Environmental Services personnel will place the placentas in an interim storage area (soiled utility room) in a ten gallon red container that is lined with a red biohazardous bag, located outside of the L&D unit.
- 2) The Biohazardous Waste Tech, once a day, will go to the interim storage areas, pick up the placentas that are in a ten gallon container lined with a red bag and place the placentas in the transport cart that is covered with a lid.
- 3) The Biohazardous Waste Tech will then call Pathology (x6060) so that Pathology can open the morgue freezer. Placentas are to be treated as Pathology waste and kept in refrigeration until removal and disposal.
- 4) Upon arrival, the Biohazardous Waste Tech will remove the red container from the transport cart and transfer the red bag with placentas from the transport cart into the red container located in the morgue freezer.
- 5) The Biohazardous Waste Tech will take the red container that they brought down from the interim storage area to the loading dock to be steam cleaned and sterilized before returning to the floor.
- 6) The Registered Waste hauler, (Stericycle), will come once a week to the Environmental Services Office (Room 1B113). At that time, Environmental Services will call Environmental Health and Safety to

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verify and sign for removal of Pathological waste.

References:	
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