

New Hampshire WIC Policy & Procedure Manual

Chapter 8 CERTIFICATION, ELIGIBILITY & COORDINATION OF SERVICES B. Nutrition Risk Determination, Documentation, and Priority Assignment

Sharps Container Disposal

- Purpose** To prevent and control transmission of blood borne pathogens.
- Policy** An approved biohazard container for safe disposal of lancets and cuvettes shall be used at all WIC clinics. The biohazard container shall be disposed of properly and timely by the WIC local agency.
- Authority** **NH State Policy and Procedure Manual**
- Procedure**
1. The local agency staff shall discard used lancets directly into the biohazard container after completion of the finger-stick.
 2. The local agency staff shall discard used cuvettes directly into the biohazard container after the sample is measured in the HemoCue photometer.
 3. Gauze, cotton balls, tissues, used band-aids do not need to be disposed of in the biohazard container. These supplies can be disposed of in the regular trash.
 4. Do not force items into the biohazard container. When the container is full or at the fill line, it shall be sealed off. The sealed container should be removed from the bloodwork area and scheduled for disposal within 60 days.
 5. The local agency shall establish a contract with a local biohazard disposal company for removing biohazard waste from the WIC clinics, or use a mailer program.

Examples of Medical Waste disposal companies:

Stericycle www.stericycle.com/

Bioserve www.bioservusa.com/

Moore Medical www.mooremedical.com/

Exceptions None