

Approved by Order No. ....  
of the Life Sciences Center Director  
of Vilnius University as of ..... 2021

## **RULES FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT AT THE LIFE SCIENCES CENTER OF VILNIUS UNIVERSITY**

### **1. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. The purpose of the Vilnius University Life Sciences Center Rules for Waste Management (hereinafter referred to as the Rules) is to regulate the process of organizing waste management at Vilnius University (hereinafter referred to as the VU) Life Sciences Center (hereinafter referred to as the LSC).
2. The Rules determine the requirements for waste management (decontamination, sorting, packaging, labelling, collection, storage, accounting and removal from the LSC as well as the requirements for the safety of hazardous and other waste management) of the LSC research and academic laboratories (hereinafter referred to as the laboratories).
3. The Rules have been drawn up in accordance with the Law on Waste Management of the Republic of Lithuania, the Rules on Waste Management of the Republic of Lithuania approved by the Order No. 217 of the Minister of the Environment of the Republic of Lithuania as of 14 July 1999 (hereinafter referred to as the Rules on Waste Management of the Republic of Lithuania), the Regulations on the Protection of Workers from the Exposure to Occupational Biological Hazards at Work approved by the Order No. 80/353 of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania as of 21 June 2001, the Regulations on the Protection of Workers from Occupational Exposure to Chemical Agents and the Regulations on the Protection of Workers from Occupational Exposure to Carcinogens and Mutagens, approved by the Order No. 97/406 of the Minister of Social Security and Labour of the Republic of Lithuania and the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania as of 24 July 2001, the Requirements for the Handling of Veterinary Medical Waste approved by the Order No. B1-562 of the Director of the State Food and Veterinary Service of the Republic of Lithuania as of 20 July 2012, as well as the other provisions of other legislation of the Republic of Lithuania regulating the management of waste.
4. The Rules do not apply to the handling of:
  - 4.1. radioactive waste;
  - 4.2. animal by-products. Staff working with experimental animals shall comply with the requirements of 23 March 2005 approved by Order of the Director of the State Food and Veterinary Service on the management and accounting of animal by-products and products thereof;
  - 4.3. household (municipal) waste.
5. The following terms are used in the Rules:
  - 5.1. **Waste** means a material or object that the holder disposes of, intends to dispose of, or is required to dispose of.

- 5.2. **Waste producer** means a person whose activities generate waste.
- 5.3. **Secondary raw materials** are directly recyclable waste and recyclable materials derived from waste.
- 5.4. **On-site sorting of waste** means the separation of waste on-site according to its type and nature for the purpose of its separate collection.
- 5.5. **Waste management** means the sorting of waste on-site, collection, packaging, labelling, pre-treatment (decontamination) and temporary storage in an establishment.
- 5.6. **Sharp wastes** are instruments and means no longer suitable for healthcare activities that can cut, puncture, injure or infect.
- 5.7. **Autoclaving** means the decontamination of waste in an autoclave for a period of 20 minutes at a pressure of 1 atmosphere and a steam temperature of 121°C.
- 5.8. **Biocide** means active substances and/or preparations intended to destroy, contain, inactivate, prevent the action of, or otherwise control, by chemical or biological means, any harmful organism. A biocidal product must have a valid Biocidal Product Authorisation Certificate issued by the National Centre for Public Health (NCPH) and be registered in the NCPH's database of biocidal products, and must have properties beneficial to the environment and to human and animal health. Biocides must not have any unacceptable effects on human and animal health or the environment.
- 5.9. **Chemical waste** means chemicals, solvents, disinfectants, substances containing heavy metals, batteries and accumulators used in the laboratory.
- 5.10. **Disinfection** means the destruction of most or all microorganisms in the environment, except for some bacterial spores, by physical and chemical means.
- 5.11. **Excreta** means the metabolic products excreted (removed) from living organisms, mainly urine and faeces.
- 5.12. **Pharmaceutical waste** means expired, unused or contaminated medicinal preparations, antibiotics and their solutions.
- 5.13. **Genetically modified organism (GMO)** means any organism whose genetic material has been altered by genetic engineering.
- 5.14. **Non-GMO** is any organism whose genetic material has not been altered by genetic engineering.
- 5.15. **Infectious waste** is waste contaminated with human or animal substance and liquids, the collection and disposal of which is subject to special requirements to prevent infection.
- 5.16. **Code** means a labelling given to a waste type, indicating the origin and type of waste. A new code shall be assigned after the decontamination of the waste in question, indicating the

decontamination of the waste. A numeric code marked with an asterisk (\*) indicates that the waste is hazardous.

5.17. **Municipal waste** is household (domestic) waste and other waste that is similar in nature or composition to municipal waste.

5.18. **Temporary storage of waste** is the storage of hazardous waste for a maximum of six months and non-hazardous waste for a maximum of one year at the site where the waste was generated, until it is collected, in preparation for transport to a waste utilization or disposal facility.

5.19. **Non-infectious waste** means waste that is not contaminated with human and animal substances and liquids, genetically modified and non-GMO organisms, and whose collection and disposal is not subject to special requirements to prevent infection.

5.20. **Hazardous waste** means waste that has one or more of the hazardous characteristics listed in Annex 4 of the Commission Regulation (EU) No 1357/2014 as of 12 December 2014 replacing Annex III to Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on Waste and repealing certain Directives (OJ 2014 L 365, p. 89) and Council Regulation (EU) 2017/997 as of 8 June 2017 partially amending Annex III to Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the hazardous characteristic HP 14 'ecotoxicity' (OJ 2017 L 150, p. 1).

5.21. **Hazardous waste storage facility** means a room or place in an establishment for the temporary storage of packaged hazardous waste.

5.22. **Safety Data Sheet (SDS)** means the information on a hazardous substance and mixture/preparation that has a defined content and that allows the necessary measures to be taken for the protection of human health, safety in the workplace and the environment.

5.23. **Heavy metals:** antimony, arsenic, cadmium, chromium (VI), copper, lead, mercury, nickel, selenium, tellurium, thallium and tin, as well as compounds of these metals, are classified as hazardous substances.

5.24. **Animal by-products:** animal bodies or parts thereof, animal products or other products derived from animals not intended for human consumption, including oocytes, embryos and sperm, butchery and slaughterhouse waste, blood, feathers, down, wool, hides and skins, animal carcasses, dung, etc.

5.25. **Carrier** means a person who receives waste from its holder, transports it and transfers it to the waste user or disposer.

5.26. **Veterinary waste** is waste from animal health care and related research.

5.27. **Veterinary waste producer** is a person who, in accordance with the procedure established by legislation of, carries out an activity in the Republic of Lithuania, who generates or has already generated veterinary waste.

6. The Rules shall be binding on all the LSC staff, students and other persons carrying out work in the laboratories whose activities involve the generation of waste.

## 2. WASTES AND GROUPS OF WASTES GENERATED BY THE LSC

7. The classification and management scheme for waste generated by the LSC is set out in Annex 1 to the Rules.

8. The following hazardous wastes and groups of wastes are generated by the LSC activities:

8.1. **Infectious waste** (code: 18 01 03\*):

8.1.1. liquid (blood, blood products, saliva, etc.);

8.1.2. used sharp items (needles, syringes with attached needles, suction cups, scalpels, lancets, surgical drills, endodontic needles, drip systems, etc.);

8.1.3. anatomical substance (tissues, various samples, autopsy and biopsy specimens, etc.);

8.1.4. articles contaminated with blood and/or other bodily fluids and excretions of humans and animals, other than for personal hygiene: solid articles (drip systems, vacuum blood collection systems, etc.), plastic disposable work equipment, medical gloves, disposable operating gowns, surgical gowns, towels, tissues, wipes, cloths, disposable clothing, swabs, bandages soaked in blood and other potentially infected biological material;

8.2. **Genetically modified organisms (GMOs)** (code: 18 01 03\*): prokaryotes (viruses and bacteria), eukaryotes (yeasts, eukaryotic cell lines, plants):

8.2.1. GMO cultures, their suspensions, supernatants after removal of cells and/or viruses;

8.2.2. plastic and other disposable work and safety equipment contaminated with GMOs;

8.2.3. GMO-contaminated glass containers (without liquid waste);

8.2.4. GMOs on solid, including agar, media in combination with a plastic plate or other plastic container;

8.3. **Non-genetically modified organisms** (code: 18 01 03\*): prokaryotes (viruses, bacteria) and eukaryotes (yeasts, eukaryotic cell lines, plants):

8.3.1. cultures, their suspensions, supernatants of organisms after removal of cells and/or viruses;

8.3.2. glass containers contaminated with organisms (without liquid waste);

8.3.3. contaminated plastic and other disposable work and protective equipment;

8.3.4. organisms on agar media in combination with a plastic plate or other plastic container;

#### 8.4. Non-infectious waste (code: 18 01 04):

8.4.1. used disposable plastic working items such as Eppendorf tubes, tips, eukaryotic cell culture vials, plates, pipettes, etc.;

8.4.2. unused disposable plastic working items;

8.4.3. used and unused disposables (towels, tissues, cloths, gloves, aprons, disposable clothing, drip systems, plastic syringes (without needles), pick-ups, etc.);

8.4.4. sharp items (code: 18 01 01): unused deesterilized syringes with attached needles, needles, scalpels, lancets, surgical needles, drills, pumps, broken glass, etc.;

#### 8.5 Pharmaceutical waste:

8.5.1. cytotoxic or cytostatic medicinal products, including antibiotics and their solutions (code: 18 01 08\*);

8.5.2. other medicinal products, including anaesthetics and their packaging, not covered by codes 18 02 07\* and 18 01 08\* (code: 18 01 09).

#### 8.6. Chemicals containing hazardous substances (code: human 18 01 06\*, animal 18 02 05\*):

8.6.1. unused solid including agar substances with plate, and liquid GMO and non-GMO growing media with antibiotics;

8.6.2. chemicals containing human and animal waste;

8.6.3. waste contaminated with GMOs and non-GMOs mixed with a hazardous substance that cannot otherwise be decontaminated;

8.6.4. formaldehyde or other chemical for cleaning equipment or preserving specimens, disinfecting liquid infected waste.

#### 8.7 Chemical waste:

8.7.1. agarose gels dyed and undyed with ethidium bromide and other dyes (code 16 05 06\*);

8.7.2. ethidium bromide solutions and ethidium bromide collectors - filters, sorbents (code 16 05 06\*);

8.7.3. coloured and uncoloured polyacrylamide gels (code 16 05 06\*);

8.7.4. unused detection and diagnostic kits, their components and residues, unused vacutainers (without needles), etc. (code 16 05 06\*);

8.7.5. photographic chemicals: fixative and developer (code 16 05 06\*);

8.7.6. vacuum pump oil (16 05 06\*);

8.7.7. solutions containing oxidising agents: potassium permanganate ( $\text{KMnO}_4$ ) and potassium dichromate ( $\text{K}_2\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7$ ); reducing agents: sodium bisulphate ( $\text{NaHSO}_4$ ) and sodium sulphite ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_3$ ) etc. (16 05 06\*);

8.7.8. packaging containing residues of hazardous substances or contaminated disposable plastics, glass, wooden, metal, aluminium packaging, contaminated cardboard, paper, textiles, glass, etc. (code 15 01 10\*);

8.7.9. waste containing heavy metals (code 06 04 05\*);

8.7.10. solid salts and solutions containing heavy metals (code 06 03 13\*);

8.7.11. waste solutions containing mercury (code 06 04 04\*);

8.7.12. solid and liquid waste from the radioactive waste storage facility, which according to the descriptions of the Lithuanian Hygienic Standard HN 73:2018 is classified as non-radioactive waste (code 16 05 06\*);

8.7.13. redundant inorganic chemicals containing or consisting of hazardous substances (code 16 05 07\*);

8.7.14. unused organic chemicals containing or consisting of hazardous substances (code 16 05 08\*);

8.7.15. other unused chemicals (code 16 05 09);

8.7.16. organic halogenated solvents, washing liquids and mother solutions (code 07 01 03\*);

8.7.17. other organic solvents, washing liquids and mother solutions (code 07 01 04\*);

8.7.18. halogenated distillation sediment and reaction residues (code 07 01 07\*);

8.7.19. other distillation sediment and reaction residues (code 07 01 08\*);

8.7.20. halogenated filter cakes and spent absorbents (code 07 01 09\*);

8.7.21. other filter cakes and spent absorbents (code 07 01 10\*);

8.7.22. printer cartridges, waste printing ink containing hazardous substances (code 08 03 17\*);

8.7.23. lead-acid batteries (code 16 06 01\*);

8.7.24. other batteries and accumulators (code 16 06 05);

8.7.25. waste containing lubricants (16 07 08\*);

8.7.26. daylight lamps and other mercury-containing waste, including thermometers (code 20 01 21\*);

8.8. **Gases in pressurised containers** (code 16 05 05 - butane, propane or other gases small capacity cylinders (~ 240 g).

9. In the case of an activity that is planned to generate hazardous waste of a type or quantity not specified in Clause 8 of the Rules, the employee responsible for the implementation of occupational safety, as designated by the Head of the relevant LSC Department, must provide information on the waste to be generated to the Occupational Health and Safety Specialist of the LSC. After assessing the information provided on the waste to be generated, the LSC Occupational Health and Safety Officer shall decide on the acceptability of the waste code and the method of its treatment.

10. The following non-hazardous wastes - recyclables are generated by the LSC operations:

10.1. uncontaminated plastic and metal;

10.2. uncontaminated glass;

10.3. paper and cardboard waste.

### **3. COLLECTION, PACKAGING, LABELLING OF HAZARDOUS WASTE FROM THE LSC**

11. Hazardous waste arising from teaching and research work in the LSC units must be identified in accordance with Annex 4 of the Rules, its composition determined and declared in the waste account.

12. Hazardous waste generated by the LSC teaching and research activities is strictly prohibited from being discharged into the LSC's general sewerage system and from being disposed of in recyclable and household waste containers.

13. Hazardous waste is collected, sorted, accounted for and stored in a waste storage facility until it is removed. Periodically, twice a year, or at other times provided for by the legislation of the Republic of Lithuania, hazardous waste shall be delivered to the waste carrier.

14. Waste is removed from its generation and collection sites by external waste handlers in accordance with relevant contracts concluded at Vilnius University.

15. The LSC staff designated as responsible for the implementation of the occupational safety functions in the laboratories shall organise the collection, sorting, decontamination, labelling, proper packaging and delivery of waste to the waste storage facility.

16. Stored hazardous waste must be packaged in such a way that it does not pose a risk to human health or the environment:

16.1. packages or containers shall be designed and constructed in such a way that the hazardous waste contained therein cannot spill, scatter, evaporate or otherwise enter the environment;

16.2. packaging materials shall be resistant to and not react with the hazardous wastes and individual components of hazardous wastes packaged in them;

16.3. packages and containers and their lids and caps shall be strong and leak-tight so as to prevent breakage, loosening and opening during storage, handling or transport and to prevent the leakage of the materials contained therein into the environment, and shall be resistant to the normal conditions of transport, such as vibration, changes in temperature, humidity, atmospheric pressure;

16.4. all containers or packages of hazardous waste stored or transported must be labelled. The form of the marking label is given in Annexes 2 and 3 to the Rules;

16.5. the hazardous waste labelling label and the information on it shall be clearly visible and resistant to environmental influences.

17. The LSC laboratories shall prominently display the waste classification list and the Rules.

#### **4. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES RELATED TO HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT**

18. The LSC Occupational Health and Safety Officer:

18.1. organises the collection of hazardous waste together with the staff responsible for occupational safety in the LSC units, and controls the implementation of the requirements set out in the Rules;

18.2. draws up lists of the waste generated;

18.3. organises the periodic collection of hazardous waste within the set deadlines;

18.4. controls the final labelling and packaging of hazardous waste;

18.5. periodically reviews the Rules and initiates their updating;

18.6. counsels the LSC staff on hazardous waste management issues;

18.7. informs the data accountants of the Property Accounting Subdivision of the Accounting Department of the Finance Department of the University about the planned hazardous waste removal (hazardous waste codes, quantities);

18.8. controls the final labelling and packaging of transported hazardous waste in accordance with the requirements of the Waste Management Rules of the Republic of Lithuania. The form of the marking label is given in Annexes 2 and 3 to the Rules.

19. Persons responsible for occupational safety in the LSC units:

19.1. organise proper handling, packaging, marking and delivery of hazardous waste to the waste storage

facility in its units, in accordance with the applicable legislation of the Republic of Lithuania and the Rules;

- 19.2. counsel the staff in his/her department on hazardous waste management;
- 19.3. familiarise new staff and students entering the Department with the Rules;
- 19.4. familiarise students with the Rules in the academic laboratories.

## **5. HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT**

20. Infected waste shall be collected, decontaminated and stored in accordance with the following procedures:

20.1. the waste described in points 8.1.1 to 8.1.2 of the Rules shall be collected at the place of generation into yellow plastic containers (Annex 1 to the Rules) and shall not be sorted. The collection packaging shall be disposable and shall be disposed of together with the contents. The wastes described in points 8.1.3 and 8.1.4 of the Rules shall be collected at the place of generation, shall not be sorted and shall be collected into bags for infected waste. Anatomical waste (point 8.1.3) shall be stored at temperatures below -18°C. Collection packages shall be filled no more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  full;

20.2. decontaminated by autoclaving together with the collection container or other packaging. After decontamination, a label shall be affixed to the container with the decontaminated waste code (Annex 2 to the Rules). Anatomical waste (point 8.1.3) does not need to be decontaminated;

20.3. after decontamination, the waste shall be safely removed to a hazardous waste storage facility, if applicable, with appropriate labelling (see Section 6 of the Rules).

21. Waste from genetically modified organisms shall be managed in accordance with the following provisions:

21.1. The removal of GMO cultures, their suspensions, supernatants after the removal of cells and/or viruses of the organisms (point 8.2) and decontamination may be carried out in two ways:

21.1.1. into plastic containers and decontaminated with biocide;

21.1.2. into containers for decontamination by autoclaving.

21.2. glass containers contaminated with GMOs (point 8.2.3) shall be decontaminated by rinsing with biocide or autoclaving;

21.3. waste of GMO-contaminated disposable working and protective equipment (point 8.2.2), GMOs on solid media in combination with a plastic plate or other plastic container (point 8.2.4) shall be collected into special bags suitable for autoclaving and shall be decontaminated by autoclaving.

21.4. decontaminated waste shall be delivered to the storage facility for storage, labelled with the appropriate code.

22. The following provisions shall apply to the management of waste from non-GM organisms:

22.1. the collection and decontamination of non-GMO cultures, their suspensions, supernatants after removal of cells and/or viruses of the organisms (point 8.3.1) may be carried out in two ways:

22.1.1. into plastic containers and decontaminated with biocide;

22.1.2. into containers for decontamination by autoclaving;

22.2. decontamination of non-GMO contaminated glass containers (point 8.3.2) can be achieved by two methods: rinsing with biocide or autoclaving.

22.3. waste of non-GMO contaminated disposable working and protective equipment (point 8.2.2) and non-GMO on solid media together with a plastic plate or other plastic container (point 8.2.4) shall be collected into special bags suitable for autoclaving and shall be autoclaved for decontamination.

22.4. the decontaminated waste shall be delivered to the storage facility for storage, labelled with the appropriate code.

23. Uninfected waste:

23.1. used and unused disposable plastic work equipment and other disposable work and safety equipment (points 8.4.1 to 8.4.3) shall be collected into plastic bags; decontamination is not required. After labelling, delivered to a waste storage facility;

23.2. used and unused sharp items (point 8.4.4) shall be collected into yellow puncture-resistant containers; decontamination is not required. Once labelled, delivered to the waste storage facility.

24. Pharmaceutical waste shall be packaged to prevent leakage, placed into a cardboard box, labelled and deposited in a waste storage facility.

25. Chemicals containing hazardous substances shall be placed into sealed containers, placed in cardboard boxes, labelled accordingly and sent to a waste storage facility.

26. Chemical waste:

26.1. agarose gels (point 8.7.1) stained and unstained with ethidium bromide and other dyes shall be collected into a plastic liquid-resistant bag, which shall be placed in a plastic container. When full, it shall be deposited in a waste storage facility.

26.2. ethidium bromide solutions and ethidium bromide collectors - filters, sorbents (point 8.7.1):

26.2.1. an aqueous solution of ethidium bromide poured into a specially marked plastic container containing a dye absorbent and decontaminating sorbent. The liquid contents shall be discharged to the sewer after decontamination.

26.2.2. the filtrate (or sorbent) shall be disposed of as hazardous waste in a storage facility after use.

26.3. waste coloured and uncoloured polyacrylamide gels ( point 8.7.3) shall be collected in a liquid-resistant plastic bag, which shall be placed in a plastic container. Once full, it is placed in a waste storage facility.

26.4 Liquid, bulk, volatile chemical waste shall be delivered to the waste facility appropriately labelled, in the manufacturer's packaging or in a container suitable for the substance or mixture and packaged to prevent leakage.

26.5 Packaging contaminated with chemicals, disposable work equipment, contaminated paper shall be labelled and packaged in such a way that the waste does not leak, puncture the packaging, break or otherwise enter the environment.

26.6 All chemical waste shall be packaged separately according to the chemical waste group, with an appropriate waste code. Wastes contaminated with different chemicals shall not be mixed with each other.

26.7 Waste from chemical processes shall be sorted, packaged and labelled in accordance with the description in the table of Annex 1 to the Rules.

27. Aerosol containers (point 8.8) shall be delivered to the waste storage facility empty and labelled accordingly.

28. Waste printing dye (point 8.7.22) in powder form shall be collected, packaged in a plastic bag and then in cardboard packaging. It shall be labelled accordingly. If the waste is contained in a cartridge, it shall be delivered packed in a cardboard box. The waste may not be dismantled.

29. Batteries, lead-acid or other accumulators shall be packed in a cardboard box, labelled and delivered to a waste storage facility.

30. Daylight lamps and other mercury-containing waste, including thermometers, shall be packaged to prevent breakage, labelled accordingly and delivered to a waste storage facility.

## **6. HAZARDOUS WASTE STORAGE FACILITY**

31. The temporary storage facility for hazardous waste is located outdoors on the LSC site.

32. Requirements for hazardous waste storage facility:

32.1. the size corresponds the amount of the hazardous waste to be stored for the duration of its storage (6 months);

32.2. the walls are easy to clean and disinfect and the floors are easy to clean and disinfect, water-resistant and durable;

32.3. the facility shall be equipped to provide protection against pollutants entering the environment;

32.4. an adequate quantity of extinguishing media and equipment is present;

32.5. the doors shall be locked to prevent unauthorised persons from entering;

32.6. equipped with a canopy to protect the waste from precipitation and direct sunlight, wind and other adverse environmental influences;

32.7. has a natural ventilation system;

32.8. the storage facility is fenced and marked with appropriate signs to prevent access by unauthorised persons, animals, birds or other creatures. The rodent and insect extermination of the

premises of the storage facility shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Description of the Procedure for Compulsory Preventive Removal of Environmental Harmful Substances (Disinfection, Disinfestation, Extermination, Deratization) approved by Order of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania as of 2 February 2009.

33. Hazardous waste can be stored for up to 6 months after decontamination and up to 72 hours without decontamination.

34. All hazardous waste shall be delivered to the storage facility in suitable containers, properly packaged and labelled in accordance with the Rules.
35. Waste must be placed in storage in areas marked with the waste type, code and name of the waste.
36. Waste not subject to special requirements can be temporarily stored at the ramp at Saulėtekio al. 7, Vilnius.
37. The vault is accessed (unlocked) by mechanically pressing the code buttons. In the event of a change in the vault access lock code or other relevant information regarding access to the vault, this information shall be provided to the staff by the LSC Occupational Health and Safety Officer(s) by email.
38. Students, whether or not employed by the LSC, may not enter the vault without being accompanied by a LSC staff member.

## **7. HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR EMPLOYEES**

39. Employees handling hazardous waste must:

39.1. wear gowns and gloves when sorting, packaging hazardous waste, decontaminating and transporting it to a hazardous waste storage facility;

39.2. wear appropriate masks or respirators when carrying out biocide decontamination of infected waste or packaging chemical waste;

39.3. wear safety goggles, waterproof aprons, headgear, respirators (masks) and disposable gloves when handling hazardous waste where there is a risk of contact with potentially infectious material.

40. Employees handling waste are prohibited from:

40.1. removing used disposable syringe needles by hand, breaking or bending them and other sharp objects;

40.2. collecting by hand contaminated broken glass objects, which must be collected and cleaned using mechanical means (scoops, brushes, tongs, tweezers, etc.);

40.3. opening, emptying, cleaning disposable containers by hand or any other means that may pose an occupational exposure risk;

40.4. shredding hazardous waste by hand;

40.5. eat and drink in the workplace.

41. Employees handling hazardous waste must comply with the legal requirements.

42. A worker injured by sharp instruments, objects contaminated with potentially infectious material during waste management shall:

42.1. wash the wound and skin with running water and soap after an exposure incident;

42.2. report the incident to the direct manager.

43. Employees whose work involves the handling of hazardous chemical waste must be familiarised with the Regulations for the Protection of Employees against Chemical Agents at Work and the information contained in the safety data sheet for the hazardous chemical (preparation).

44. Persons who violate the requirements of the Rules shall be liable in accordance with the provisions of law.