

Liquid and Semi-Liquid Biomedical Waste Guidelines

The University of California, Irvine (UC Irvine) [Institutional Biosafety Committee \(IBC\)](#) reviews and approves all research involving biological agents and materials. The IBC, with the Biosafety Officer, uses National Institutes of Health (NIH) recombinant and synthetic nucleic acid guidelines, Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL), American Biological Safety Association (ABSA) resources, and Canada Public Health Pathogen Safety Data Sheets (PSDS) to assess and approve effective waste treatment.

All researchers must follow the requirements of the IBC for disinfection of liquid and semi-liquid biomedical waste. The type of disinfectant used for treatment of liquid and semi-liquid biomedical waste is documented in the UC Irvine Biological Use Authorization (BUA) form.

Liquid and semi-liquid biomedical waste treated with 1-part household bleach to 9 parts liquid waste with a 30-minute contact time, can be disposed down the sanitary sewer drain.

In cases, where household bleach is not considered to be effective disinfectant, the UC Irvine IBC uses resources such as Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registered antimicrobial products, CDC's guidance on chemical disinfectant, and Canada Public Health PSDS to require an alternate chemical disinfection method. These alternate liquid and semi-liquid biomedical waste treatment methods must be managed as a [hazardous chemical waste](#).

Do not dispose of liquid or semi-liquid biomedical waste using sinks, drains, intentional evaporation, or as regular trash.

Resources:

BMBL 6 th edition	https://www.cdc.gov/labs/pdf/SF_19_308133-A_BMBL6_00-BOOK-WEB-final-3.pdf
Canada PSDS	https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/laboratory-biosafety-biosecurity/pathogen-safety-data-sheets-risk-assessment.html
CDC	https://www.cdc.gov/infection-control/hcp/disinfection-sterilization/chemical-disinfectants.html?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/disinfection/disinfection-methods/chemical.html
EPA	https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/selected-epa-registered-disinfectants
NIH Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acid Guidelines	https://osp.od.nih.gov/wp-content/uploads/NIH_Guidelines.pdf