

<b>TITLE: DISPOSAL OF BIOMEDICAL WASTE AND CONTAMINATED EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>SECTION: LAND AMBULANCE</b>
<b>DATE: October 2, 2008</b>	<b>POLICY NO.: KDSB-LAS-V-14</b>
<b>APPROVED BY: Resolution No. 2008-150</b>	<b>REVISED:</b>

**1. Policy Statement**

This policy will outline the procedure to be followed by staff at Northwest EMS to ensure the safe disposal of biomedical waste and appropriate handling of contaminated supplies. When disposing of biomedical waste or contaminated equipment Paramedics must also adhere to the best practices for Infection Prevention and control as outlined in the *Infection Prevention and Control Best Practices Manual for Land Paramedic*.

**2. Procedure for Disposal of Contaminated Supplies**

**a) Dressing/Solid Waste, Disposable Linen, Disposable Supplies and Protective Clothing**

Place items in a plastic bag and seal. Place this bag into a second plastic bag and seal tightly again. Label outer bag "Infectious Waste" and dispose of at a hospital in accordance with the hospital's infectious control procedures.

**b) Reusable Linens**

Place linens in a separate plastic bag and seal. Place inside a second plastic bag and seal tightly again. Label outer bag "Infectious Linens – For Laundry" and dispose of at a hospital in accordance with the hospital's infection control procedures.

**c) Sharps**

NWEMS will use safety engineered sharps (Vanish Point 1cc, 3cc and 10 cc) in the administration of approved ALS medications.

Sharps should not be recapped or bent after use, but placed in puncture-proof containers and then deposited at a hospital or other approved agency in accordance with the infection control procedures of that facility.