 <p>DR. PABLO O. TORRE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL</p>	<p>B.S. Aquino Drive, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental, 6100</p>	Document Code:	DPOTMH-E-60-P05
		Effective Date:	08-30-2022
		Document Type:	Policy
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		Department/Section:	Molecular Laboratory
		Document Title:	WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR SARS-COV-2 FACILITY

PURPOSE:

To provide guidelines to be followed in disposing of the waste generated by DPOTMH Molecular Laboratory during the COVID-19 testing operations to minimize the risks associated with the disposal.

LEVEL:

All Molecular Laboratory Personnel of Dr. Pablo O. Torre Memorial Hospital (DPOTMH)

DEFINITION OF TERMS:

Biological waste- it is referred to as biological material of animal, human, plant, or animal origin.


Biohazardous waste- it is an infectious material, such as specimen-contaminated plastic ware and containers.

Decontamination- any procedure that eliminates or reduces biological agents and toxins to a safe level with respect to the transmission of infection or other adverse effects.

Waste management- is a process wherein waste is segregated, treated as needed, and disposed of. Proper identification, segregation, and disposal of wastes are necessary to prevent the dispersal of biological agents.

POLICY:

1. The DPOTMH Molecular Laboratory generates different types of waste during the COVID-19 testing operations. These include leftover biological materials, contaminated plastic ware, and paper towels, and may vary depending on the workflow step.

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2. The principle of “cradle to the grave” must be practiced in order to ensure that all waste is safe for disposal once it gets out of the DPOTMH Covid testing facility.
3. All potential waste streams that will be generated from each procedure shall be assessed and an appropriate process shall be put in place prior to the procedure being done.
4. The Department shall ensure that containers are properly labeled, are not leaky, and are appropriate for all types of waste.
5. Untrained staff shall not be allowed to handle hazardous waste. Based on risk assessment, personal protective equipment (PPE) shall be used when handling waste.
6. Department Personnel shall wear the appropriate PPE depending on the items they are handling and the procedures they are doing. The minimum PPE includes:
 - 6.1. Laboratory coat / disposable laboratory gown
 - 6.2. Nitrile gloves
 - 6.3. Properly enclosed footwear
7. A record book of the type of waste and estimated quantity shall be filled out prior to autoclaving.

DOCUMENTATION:

New Policy

DISSEMINATION:

1. Policies and Procedures Manual
2. Unit Orientation
3. Unit Meeting



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