APPENDIX BW

BIOMEDICAL WASTE DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are excerpted from Rule 64E-16.002 Definitions, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) (version dated 6/3/97). For ease of reference, the rule numbering has been retained.

(2) Biomedical Waste -- Any solid or liquid waste which may present a threat of infection to humans, including nonliquid tissue, body parts, blood, blood products, and body fluids from humans and other primates; laboratory and veterinary wastes which contain human disease-causing agents; and discarded sharps. The following are also included:
   (a) Used, absorbent materials saturated with blood, blood products, body fluids, or excretions or secretions contaminated with visible blood; and absorbent materials saturated with blood or blood products that have dried.
   (b) Non-absorbent, disposable devices that have been contaminated with blood, body fluids, or secretions or excretions visibly contaminated with blood, but have not been treated by an approved method.

(3) Biomedical Waste Generator -- A facility or person that produces biomedical waste. The term includes hospitals, skilled nursing or convalescent hospitals, intermediate care facilities, clinics, dialysis clinics, dental offices, health maintenance organizations, surgical clinics, medical buildings, physicians' offices, laboratories, veterinary clinics and funeral homes.
   (a) Mobile health care units, such as bloodmobiles, that are part of a stationary biomedical waste generator, are not considered individual biomedical waste generators.
   (b) Funeral homes that do not practice embalming are not considered biomedical waste generators.

(4) Body Fluids -- Those fluids which have the potential to harbor pathogens, such as human immunodeficiency virus and hepatitis B virus and include blood, blood products, lymph, semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal, synovial, pleural, peritoneal, pericardial and amniotic fluids. In instances where identification of the fluid cannot be made, it shall be considered to be a regulated body fluid. Body excretions such as feces and secretions such as nasal discharges, saliva, sputum, sweat, tears, urine, and vomitus shall not be considered biomedical waste unless visibly contaminated with blood.