APPENDIX A

Disposal Streams for Biomedical and General Waste

Waste Category	Colour Code	Examples	Disposal
Anatomical waste	Red	Tissues, organs, body parts	Incineration Must be preclared in a
		Note: Medical supplies used in the provision of care of infectious diseases categorized as Category A under the	Must be packaged in a sealed, impervious container that is refrigerated or frozen until disposal
		TDG regulations (for example: viral hemorrhagic fever) are to be disposed as biomedical waste.	Must never be kept longer than one week
Microbiologic waste	Yellow	Diagnostic specimens, cultures, vaccines	Incineration, or
			Treatment that is capable of inactivating spores (e.g., autoclave), then landfill
Fluid waste	Yellow	Drainage collection units and suction containers contents, blood, blood products, bloody body fluids and other materials that will release liquid or semi- liquid blood if compressed	Sanitary sewer if permitted by municipal bylaws, <i>or</i> Incineration, <i>or</i> Treatment that is capable of inactivating spores (e.g., autoclave), then landfill
Hazardous or Cytotoxic	YELLOW	Hazardous Medication type 1 or 2, medication cups, syringes, gloves, gowns used when administering this medication. For clients on hazardous medication type 2 – disposable items soiled with body fluids (briefs, gloves, gowns, mask with visors, dressings, urinary bags, etc)	Incineration

Sharps	Yellow <i>or</i> Red if incinerated Red sharps containers for hazardous medication sharps	Needles, syringes, lancets, blades, clinical glass	Incineration, <i>or</i> Treatment that is capable of inactivating spores, then landfill Or in accordance with municipal / regional regulations.
General waste	Green, black or clear	Dressings, sponges, diapers, incontinent pads, PPE disposable drapes, dialysis tubing and filters, empty IV bags and tubing, catheters, empty specimen containers, lab coats and aprons and pads that will not release liquid or semiliquid blood if compresses Isolation waste from Contact, Droplet and Airborne Precautions rooms Waste from offices, kitchens, washrooms, public areas	Landfill

Source: PIDAC: Best Practices for Environmental Cleaning for Prevention and Control of Infections, May 2012.