MISSION OF MERCY MEDICAL/HAZARDOUS WASTE

The Michigan Dental Association is responsible for ensuring only those items deemed appropriate are disposed in medical waste containers. Your compliance ensures the safety of volunteers responsible for handling and shipping waste containers.

Amalgam waste buckets will be available in the clinical areas next to the jugs of line cleaner. The only items that are to go in these buckets are:

Amalgam scrap
Disposable plastic amalgam wells
Amalgam capsules (no capsules go in the trash)
Disinfected teeth that contain amalgam fillings

Wastewater from the treatment chairs and hygiene chairs will be collected by Anterior Quest and recycled for mercury.

Sharps containers are available in all clinical and medical areas of the clinic. Please observe the fill line limit and once filled to that capacity close and bring to the supply area where a replacement will be made available to you. The following items are appropriate to go in all sharps containers.

- Needles
- Orthodontic wire
- Broken burs, single use burs and endodontic files
- Diabetes lancets
- Scalpel blades and sutures
- Broken glass

**NO anesthetic carpules in the sharps containers**
**NO TEETH are to go in the sharps containers**

Please put all other items in the regular trash or if 50% or more saturated with blood then place in the medical waste bins or red medical waste bags.
Two large 3 foot high medical waste bins will be located in the oral surgery department and one in the restorative area. These bins are not for disposal of regular trash. The only items that are to go in these bins are:

- Items 50% or more saturated with blood and visibly bloody gloves, gauze, bandages or other items saturated with blood.
- Securely closed disposable sharps containers and teeth without amalgam that have been disinfected.
- Smaller red waste bags filled for disposal.

Do not place needles, scalpel blades, suture needles or any other loose sharp objects in the bin. Do not place regular trash in these bins.

Red medical waste bags will be furnished to the Medical Triage area, Prosthodontic area, wound check area and exit/interview area. If anyone else needs one, please come to central supply to obtain one. The following items are appropriate to go in these bags:

- Items 50% or more saturated with blood and visibly bloody gloves, gauze, bandages or other items saturated with blood.
- Securely closed disposable sharps containers and teeth without amalgam that have been disinfected.

Do not place needles, scalpel blades, suture needles or any other loose sharp objects in the bin. Do not place regular trash in the bags.