

October 27, 2014

***** This is a communication from the New York State Regulated Medical Waste Program*****

To: Hospitals and Clinical Laboratories

From: New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH)

This notification serves to provide an update to hospitals and clinical laboratories located in New York State on the handling of regulated medical waste (RMW) generated from the care of suspected or confirmed Ebola virus disease (EVD) patients.

U.S. Department of Transportation Issues Special Permit for EVD RMW

On October 16, 2014, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) issued an emergency special permit authorizing several RMW transporters to transport EVD RMW. If your facility will be sending RMW generated from the care of suspected or confirmed EVD patients off-site for treatment, please take note of packaging requirements described in the emergency special permit. Information on the USDOT emergency special permit (DOT SP 16279) can be found at: <http://phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/transporting-infectious-substances>

The transporters authorized under the nationwide special permit issued by USDOT include Triumvirate Environmental, Inc., Veolia ES Technical Solutions, L.L.C., Smith Systems Transportation Inc., Stericycle, Inc., and Advanced Environmental Options, Inc. Some of these transporters operate in New York State. Your facility will need to confirm with the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) that your transporter has approval under the USDOT emergency special permit to transport untreated EVD RMW. DEC can be reached at by phone at (202) 366-4535 or by email at Specialpermits@dot.gov. Guidance is also available from DEC's Hazardous Materials Information Center at (800) 467-4922.

Your waste management plan, which describes policies and procedures specific to the management of regulated medical waste generated on-site, should be modified to reflect the USDOT emergency special permit requirements. As described in 10 NYCRR 70-2.1, Waste Management Plan, each facility shall develop, document and implement policies and procedures specific to the management of regulated medical waste generated on-site and/or treated at the facility. Such policies and procedures shall minimally include, but not be limited to: a description of the types, and method(s) for treatment and disposal of regulated medical waste; procedures for safe handling and transport of the waste within the facility from the point of generation or intake to the point of storage and/or treatment; a description of storage areas, including, as applicable, patient care areas,

which details the location, ventilation and capacity of each storage area, and the length of time waste is to be retained in each area; and the titles and contact information for persons responsible for monitoring compliance.

If you have any questions related to this communication, you may contact the Regulated Medical Waste Program at rmwp@health.ny.gov

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

The New York State Department of Health
Regulated Medical Waste Program