Notice on the Management of Medical Waste in Medical Institutions for COVID-19

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Health commissions of provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government and Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps:
In order to carry out the management of medical waste for COVID-19 and effectively prevent the spread of the disease, in accordance with the *Law on the Prevention and Treatment of Infectious Diseases*, *Administrative Measures of Medical Waste in Medical Institutions* and other laws and regulations, the relevant requirements are hereby notified as follows:

I. To implement the main responsibility of medical institutions
Medical institutions should attach great importance to the management of medical waste for COVID-19, and effectively implement the main responsibility. Its legal representative is the first responsible person for the management of medical waste, and the specific departments and operators of medical waste are directly responsible persons. The medical institutions that implement the socialization of logistic services should strengthen the management of the institutions and personnel providing logistic services, organize and carry out training, urge them to master the basic requirements for the management of medical waste and earnestly perform their duties. To intensify efforts to improve the environment, timely dispose of medical waste, avoiding the accumulation of all kinds of waste, and strive to create a healthy and hygienic environment.

II. To strengthen the classification and collection of medical waste
(1) Defining the scope of classified collection. Medical waste and domestic waste,
generated by the clinic and ward (room) in the diagnosis and treatment of pneumonia patients and suspected patients infected by the COVID-19, should be collected according to the classification of medical waste.

(2) **Specification of packing containers.** There shall be warning marks on the outer surface of the special packaging bags and sharps boxes for medical waste. Medical waste collection bucket should be pedal-powered and covered. When the medical waste reaches 3/4 of the packaging bag or sharp box, it shall be sealed effectively to ensure a tight seal. The medical waste shall be contained in double-layer packaging bags, sealed with gooseneck knot and sealed in layers.

(3) **Safety collection.** Timely collection of medical waste by category to ensure personnel safety and control the risk of infection. When the packaging bag containing medical waste and the outer surface of the sharps box are contaminated by infectious waste, an additional layer of packaging bag shall be added. It is strictly prohibited to squeeze the disposable isolation clothing, protective clothing and other items after classification and collection. Each packaging bag or sharp box shall be labeled with or affixed with a Chinese label, which shall include the generation unit, department, date and category of medical waste, and shall be labeled with "pneumonia caused by novel coronavirus" or "new crown" in the special instructions.

(4) **Processing by region.** Medical wastes generated in potential polluted areas and polluted areas of fever clinics and wards (rooms) of pneumonia patients and suspected patients infected by COVID-19, shall be sprayed and disinfected with 1000mg/L chlorine-containing disinfectant solution (pay attention to uniform spraying) or a layer of medical waste packaging bag shall be added outside the packaging bag before leaving the polluted area. The medical waste generated in the clean area shall be disposed according to the conventional medical waste.

(5) **Correct treatment of pathogen specimens.** High hazardous wastes, such as specimens containing pathogens and related preservation solutions, shall be sterilized by pressure steam or chemically disinfected at the place where they are generated, and then collected and disposed of as infectious wastes.

III. To strengthen the transportation and storage of medical waste

(1) **Safe transportation.** Before transporting medical waste, the identification, label and seal of the packaging bag or sharp tool box shall be checked to see if they meet the
requirements. When transporting medical wastes, the staff shall prevent the damage of special packaging bags and sharp tool boxes for medical wastes, prevent the medical wastes from directly contacting the body, and avoid the leakage and diffusion of medical wastes. At the end of each day's transportation, the transportation tools shall be cleaned and disinfected with a chlorine-containing disinfectant concentration of 1000 mg/L; When the conveyance is contaminated by infectious medical waste, it shall be disinfected in time.

(2) **Standardized storage and handover.** The temporary storage place for medical wastes shall be tightly closed with staff to manage it and prevent non-staff from contacting medical wastes. Medical waste should be stored in a separate area in the temporary storage place and be disposed of by the medical waste disposal unit as soon as possible. Use 1000mg/L chlorine-containing disinfectant to disinfect the surface of the temporary storage of medical waste twice a day. Medical waste generation department, transport personnel, temporary storage staff and transfer personnel of medical waste disposal unit shall register the transfer layer by layer and state that the medical waste is from pneumonia patients or suspected patients infected by COVID-19.

(3) **Transfer registration.** To strictly implement the management of hazardous waste transfer forms and the registration of medical waste. The registration contents include the source, type, weight or quantity, handover time, final destination and signature of the handler of the medical waste, with special indication of "pneumonia infected in novel coronavirus" or "new crown", and the registration data shall be kept for 3 years. The medical institution should inform the medical waste disposal unit to collect the medical waste in time and make corresponding records. Health administration departments and medical institutions at all levels should strengthen information exchange with ecological and environmental departments and medical waste disposal units, and coordinate the standardized disposal of medical waste for COVID-19.