

Janet Stanek, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: Health Care Facilities

From: Julie Coleman, Director, Bureau of Waste Management

Date: July 13, 2022

Re: Management of Medical Waste Generated During the Care of Monkeypox Patients

Based on current information, it has been determined that medical waste generated during the care of patients with the West African clade of Monkeypox can be managed as normal (Category B) regulated medical waste. This applies to both patients under investigation (PUIs) and patients with confirmed illness associated with the current Monkeypox outbreak.

To date, cases in the US are associated with the west African clade; therefore, medical waste generated during patient care can be managed as Category B medical waste. However, for patients with a history of travel to central Africa in the past 21 days before symptom onset, the more infectious and fatal central African clade is suspected and medical waste generated during patient care should be managed as Category A medical waste.

In Kansas, medical services waste means solid waste which has the potential to transmit disease or cause injury that is generated during care of patients.

The attached Medical Services Waste Guidance Document provides an overview of the proper management of medical services waste and is based on Kansas regulations regarding medical services waste (K.A.R. 28-29-27).

An update to this guidance will be disseminated if new information becomes available that indicates other procedures or precautions should be followed when managing medical waste associated with the care of Monkeypox patients.

cc Farah Ahmed, State Epidemiologist
Leo Henning, Deputy Secretary of Environment
Ashley Goss, Deputy Secretary of Public Health