

VACUUM TRAPS

FOR BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE

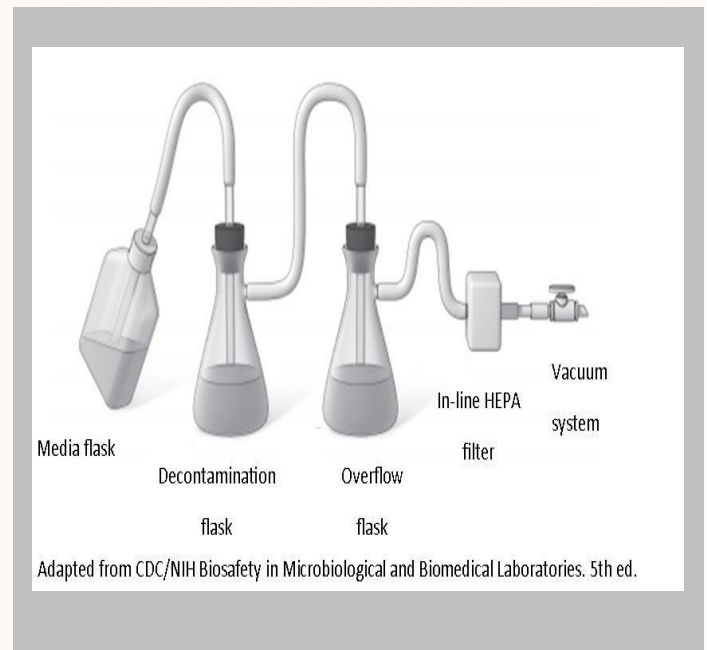
OVERVIEW

Liquid wastes from the culture and preparation of cells and tissues that are potentially infectious are biohazardous waste and must be disinfected prior to disposal down the sanitary sewer.

Vacuum systems must be protected with liquid disinfectant traps. In-line High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filters are recommended for Biosafety Level 2 work. These prevent hazardous biological materials from entering the vacuum lines.

PROCEDURE

- Assemble the apparatus according to the diagram.
- The decontamination flask must contain an appropriate disinfectant at its proven effective concentration. For example, place 100mL of household bleach in a 1L flask and add up to 900mL infectious liquid media to result in a 10% bleach solution. Bleach must be renewed daily.
- After an appropriate contact time (depends on the type of disinfectant) discard the liquid down the sink.
- Replace the HEPA filter when it becomes clogged or if it comes into contact with liquid.
- Monitor the levels in the flasks and do not allow them to overflow.
- Provide secondary containment for flasks on the floor.
- Flasks must be labeled.
- Double check that all seals and connections are secure.
- For questions regarding the setup and use with biohazardous agents, contact Biosafety at biosafety@usf.edu



HAZARDOUS WASTE

Chemical constituents (other than the disinfectant) of the culture media are hazardous waste and cannot be disposed of down the drain. All hazardous chemical waste must be disposed of through EH&S.

Never put any chemicals (other than the disinfectant) down the drain or in the trash.

Radiological constituents of the culture media cannot be disposed of down the drain. All radiological waste must be disposed of through the Radiation Safety Office (813-974-1194)

Please refer to the USF Biomedical Waste Management Plan for more information