

Managing Dissected Preserved Lab Specimens

GUIDELINES

Preserved lab specimens are animal specimens that are preserved in formalin and placed in a holding solution for storage. Review the product safety data sheet (SDS) prior to handling the specimens and holding solutions. The SDS should be reviewed and approved by the Safety Office.

Environmental regulations prohibit the disposal of dissected preserved specimens into the sewer and trash. The following guidelines should be followed to manage dissected preserved specimens:

- Decant the holding solution into the sewer with approval from the Safety Office.
- Store dissected preserved specimens in a secure location.
- Store dissected preserved specimens in leak proof containers.
- Storage containers must have absorbent at the bottom for residual liquids.
- Immediately report any spills or leaks to the Safety Office
- Label the container with the following information:

Dissected preserved specimens, site name, phone number and accumulation start date.

- Dispose of the specimens using an authorized transporter within 30 days after dissection.
- Contact the Safety Office if you need assistance.