

HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

PORTABLE COOLER – LABORATORY

Effective Date:	December 2001	Policy No:	IC 0015B
Cross Referenced:		Origin:	Infection Control
Reviewed Date:	September 2010	Authority:	Edward McManus, M.D.
Revised Date:		Page:	1 of 1

PURPOSE: To transport laboratory specimens to and from the laboratory.

SUPPORTING DATA: Federal Register DOL-OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.1030

PROCEDURE:

1. Portable cooler(s) utilized by the laboratory for specimen transport will be clearly marked with a red-orange or florescent orange biohazard label.
2. The biohazard label will be clearly visible and affixed to the cooler in a manner that prevents its loss or unintentional removal.
3. The cooler(s) will transport only laboratory specimens (no food or beverages).
4. The cooler(s) will be cleaned weekly with a germicide approved by the HCH Environmental Services Department.
5. The cleaning will be recorded on a chart with date and initials of person performing the cleaning.
6. The cooler(s) will be checked monthly for damage to render the cooler unsafe, cracks/splits, and/or excessive wear.
7. If any cooler is damaged or deemed unsafe for specimen transport it will be replaced.