10. Longfield RN, Smith LP, Longfield JN, et al: Multiple-dose vials: Persistence of bacterial contaminants and infection control implications. *Infect Control* 1985; 6:194-199.

William Craig, MD
Chief, Infectious Diseases
William S. Middletown Memorial
Veterans Hospital
Madison, Wisconsin

Infectious Waste Management

To the Editor:

I read with interest the editorial, "Infectious Waste Management—Will Science Prevail?" by Eddie R. Hedrick, BS, MT(ASCP), CIC (1988; 9(11):488-490).

It is about time someone set the record straight. This is a logical, rational approach to a sticky political problem. I am particularly pleased that Mr Hedrick addressed the issue of isolation room waste. While the Centers for Disease Control guidelines were, in fact, profound, they did not specifically address this topic. I fully agree, and in my many inservices I have stressed this idea regarding infectious waste.

In reviewing a recently published infection control manual for a nursing home, the definition of infectious waste would include everything anyone touched. I hope science will eventually prevail. We can ill afford to spend money on insignificant, obsolete ideas.

Irwin H. Koransky, MS, SM (AAM)
Epidemiologist
Memorial Hospital of Glendale
Glendale, California

https://doi.org/10.1086/646000 Published online by Cambridge University Press