

## Biomedical waste Management in India

Hospital is a place of almighty, a place to serve the patient. Since beginning, the hospitals are known for the treatment of sick persons but we are unaware about the adverse effects of the garbage and filth generated by them on human body and environment. Now it is a well established fact that there are many adverse and harmful effects to the environment including human beings which are caused by the “Hospital waste” generated during the patient care. Hospital waste is a potential health hazard to the health care workers, public and flora and fauna of the area. Hospital acquired infection, transfusion transmitted diseases, rising incidence of Hepatitis B, and HIV, increasing land and water pollution lead to increasing possibility of catching many diseases. Air pollution due to emission of hazardous gases by incinerator such as Furan, Dioxin, Hydrochloric acid etc. have compelled the authorities to think seriously about hospital waste and the diseases transmitted through improper disposal of hospital waste. This problem has now become a serious threat for the public health and, ultimately, the Central Government had to intervene for enforcing proper handling and disposal of hospital waste and an act was passed in July 1996 and a bio-medical waste (handling and management) rule was introduced in 1998. Common Biomedical waste facilities emerged in a phase wise manner in India and now in house incineration facilities of health care units has been stopped and CBWTF can only have the incineration facility.

### Improper Segregation and storage of infectious



A modern hospital is a complex, multidisciplinary system which consumes thousands of items for delivery of medical care and is a part of physical environment. All these products consumed in the hospital leave some unusable leftovers i.e. hospital waste. The last century witnessed the rapid growth of hospital in the public and private sector, dictated by the needs of expanding population. The advent and acceptance of “disposable” has made the generation of hospital waste a significant factor in current scenario.

In 2016 Environment and forest ministry has come up with very stringent rules for management of biomedical waste. Formation of district level committees, Requirement of 2 Second residence time in secondary combustion chamber, Bar-coded bags for ensure proper disposal of the Biomedical waste are some of the important changes in biomedical waste management. Government and ministry of Environment and forestry is very confident that these new rules will help them to proper management of hospital waste and will ensure that biomedical waste will not be contaminated with Municipal waste and the smallest clinic will be providing its waste to common biomedical waste treatment facility. Still Many small cities in India do not have the CBWTF facilities and their waste is managed indiscriminately.

**Sources:**

<http://www.cwejournal.org/vol7no1/need-of-biomedical-waste-management-system-in-hospitals-an-emerging-issue-a-review/>

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