



## KNOWLEDGE OF BIOMEDICAL WASTE IN NON CLINICAL STAFF IN GOVT TALUKA HOSPITALS OF UTTARA KANNADA DISTRICT

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### ABSTRACT

Hospital waste generation has become a prime concern due to its multidimensional ramifications as a risk factor to the Non Clinical Cleaning Staff. The aim is to know the knowledge of BMW of non-clinical staff in taluka hospital. 60 Purposive Random Sampling out of 340 Non Clinical Cleaning Staff who are employed either permanent/contract basis for the 2017-2018. The Researcher used interview schedule and Hospital Documents. The correct knowledge of disposing waste in colour coded bin amongst the non clinical shows 54%,40%,50% and 27% for the yellow bin, Red bin, White bin and for the blue bin respectively. The analysis shows that 80% of the respondents are provided with personal protective equipments. 75% of respondents are immunized regularly for tetanus and hepatitis. 8% of them suffer from asthma, fever or skin diseases. 8% of the non clinical staff do not maintain personal hygiene after disposing wastes. Non clinical staff should be trained regularly with updated knowledge of the recent 2016 BMW rules. Labeling of all the bins should be displayed in local language with symbols. Occupational safety should be given utmost importance by making strict rules to wear personal protective equipments along regularly immunization for each nonclinical staff. The scrutiny should be monitored by the hospital administration at the hospital level and at the district level at regular intervals. Health cards with free medical facilities to maintain good health along with risk allowances for boosting their morale.

**KEYWORDS** : bio-medical waste management, knowledge, hospital

### INTRODUCTION

Appropriate management of health care waste is a crucial component of environmental health protection, and it should become an integral feature of health care services. In this regard, occupational health should aim to promote and maintain highest degree of physical, mental and social well-being of workers especially non-clinical staff of hospitals. Hospital waste generation has become a prime concern due to its multidimensional ramifications as a risk factor to the health of patients, hospital staff and extending beyond the boundaries of the medical establishment to the general population.

### AIM

To know the knowledge of BMW of non clinical staff in a tertiary care hospital

### STUDY AREA

This study is conducted in all the 10 Taluka Govt. Hospitals of Uttara Kannada District. Considering the review and observation made by the investigator the study is planned. It is hoped that the study will help the non clinical staff to gain accurate knowledge of BMW in accordance with the 2016 Bio-Medical Guidelines, to know the precautions to be taken while disposing wastes and also to maintain good health and regular health checkups. And in the long run this study will help for the clean environment in the government hospitals.

### RESEARCH DESIGN:

For the present study the researcher used exploratory design from respondents concerned.

### CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF THE SAMPLE

The study was conducted in government taluka hospitals of Uttara Kannada. Purposive Random Sampling of 60 Samples for the Non Clinical Cleaning Staff of the hospitals was selected from total 340 Non Clinical staff who are employed either permanent or contract basis for the year 2017-2018 was conducted. The Researcher interviewed each Non clinical staff in the Taluka Hospital.

### TOOLS USED:

Methods of data collection depend on the topic of research being

studied and Tools of Data Collection used are interview schedule and Hospital Documents.

### RESULTS

Majority of the respondents belong to the middle age group of 35-49 age group. 55% are from the urban area. 85% of the non clinical staff are women. The educational status shows that 58% of the respondents have primary education and 12% of them are illiterate. The economic status of the respondents show that 52% belong to below poverty line families. The study also shows that 28% of non clinical staff have work experience of above 10 years.

The knowledge of colour code amongst the non clinical shows that 54% of the respondents have the correct knowledge of disposing the waste to be disposed in the yellow bin, 40% of the respondents have the correct knowledge of disposing the waste to be disposed in the Red bin, 50% of the respondents have the correct knowledge of disposing the waste to be disposed in the White bin and 27% of the respondents have the correct knowledge of disposing the waste to be disposed in the blue bin.

The analysis of occupational safety of the non clinical staff shows that 80% of the respondents are provided with personal protective equipments 20% of them do not wear or are not given personal protective equipments. 75% of the non clinical staff are given immunization regularly of tetanus and hepatitis. 8% of the non clinical staff are either suffering from asthma, fever or skin diseases. 8% of the non clinical staff do not maintain personal hygiene after disposing wastes. 65% of non clinical staff have undergone training for correct disposal of wastes and 92% of the respondents are demanding for Bio Medical Waste Management Training.

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION:

Knowledge about hospital waste and its management is to be improved among non-clinical staffs. As the knowledge regarding hospital waste storage and disposal is not up to the mark it should be updated. Actually the aim of this study was to identify where the gap is. This study highlights this issue. As a recommendation to improve this situation continuous training should be made compulsory for healthcare personnel especially non-clinical staffs working in the hospitals. Non clinical staff should be trained

regularly with updated knowledge of the recent 2016 BMW rules. This knowledge and the labeling of all the bins should be displayed in local language with symbols.

Occupational safety should be given utmost importance by making strict rules to wear personal protective equipments along regularly immunization for each and every nonclinical staff. The scrutiny should be monitored by the hospital administration at the hospital level and also it should be scrutinized at the district level at regular intervals. In order to maintain good health and hygiene of the nonclinical staff, they should be given health cards with free medical facilities. Also they should be given risk allowances for boosting their morale. It would be better to use machines for segregation of hazardous waste which in the long run will help to overcome the overall health issues of the non clinical staff.

Not only the non clinical staff but also the public should be given awareness regarding all the waste management which will help towards healthy environment towards accomplishment of Swatch Bharat Abhiyaan.

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