



A STUDY ON EMPLOYEE AWARENESS ON BIOMEDICAL WASTE IN A MULTI-SPECIALITY HOSPITAL

Hospital Administration

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ABSTRACT

Biomedical waste (BMW) generated daily in our country is very large and contains infectious and hazardous substances. It is essential that employees understand the hazards of biomedical waste in their work environment. It is important that the various professionals working in the healthcare sector have the appropriate knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding the management of BMW. A cross-sectional study was performed among doctors, nurses, and general duty assistants in a multi-specialty hospital.

KEYWORDS

INTRODUCTION:

Bio-medical waste also known as healthcare waste; is any kind of waste containing infectious materials which include hazardous chemicals, radioactive materials. Ex- Body Fluids, Laboratory waste, Sharps, expired medicines containing radioisotopes etc. They are the major contributor to community- acquired infection. Hence, there is a dire necessity for correctly managing and disposing of such waste.

Bio-medical waste categories in India:

Category	Source of Waste
1	Human Anatomical Waste
2	Animal Waste
3	Microbiology and Biotechnology Waste
4	Waste Sharps
5	Discarded Medicines and Cytotoxic drugs
6	Soiled Waste
7	Solid Waste
8	Liquid Waste
9	Incinerated Ash



COLOR CODED BAGS:



YELLOW BAGS: It is a yellow colored Non Chlorinated Plastic bag. It includes human anatomical waste, animal anatomical waste, soiled waste, discarded medicines, laboratory waste, chemical waste, spent hypo (photographic soln.) of X-rays etc.

RED BAGS: It is red colored Non Chlorinated plastic bag. It includes Contaminated Recyclable waste which contains plastics, disposable items bottles, urine bags, intravenous tubes & sets syringes without needles, gloves, masks, rubber aprons, gowns, ELISA plate and vials not containing blood samples.

WHITE BAGS: It is white colored translucent, puncture proof, leak proof, temper proof containers. It includes needles, syringes, with fixed needles, scalpels, blades, trocar, cannula; surgical stab knife or other contaminated sharps object that may cause puncture or cuts.

BLUE BAGS: It is puncture proof, leak proof boxes or containers with blue colored marking. It consists of broken or discarded and

contaminated glass including medicine vials and ampoules except, broken glass pipettes, cytotoxic waste, glass slides etc.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

A cross sectional study was carried out among the Doctors, Nursing Staff and General Duty Assistants in different hospital departments. A knowledge survey is done on departments by preparing a questionnaire on biomedical waste management.

AIM OF THE STUDY:

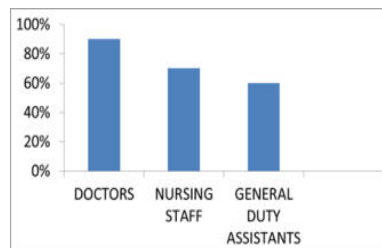
Assess the level of knowledge, attitude, and practice of doctors, nurses, and general duty assistants in various departments of the hospital.

SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE FOR STAFF

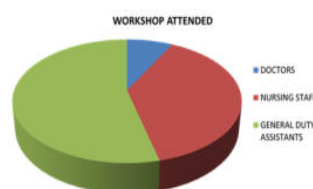
1. Have you ever attended training or workshop concerning waste management?
2. Do you know the biohazard symbol?
3. Do you know any rules/act for biomedical waste management?
4. According to BMW rules waste should not be stored beyond?
5. While handling BMW do you take personal protective measures?
6. Does improper waste management cause different health hazards?
7. Does BMW disposal feel as extra burden?
8. Disposal of anatomic waste, sharps, glassware and metallic body implants, syringes (without needle) and gloves into which colour bags?

RESULTS:

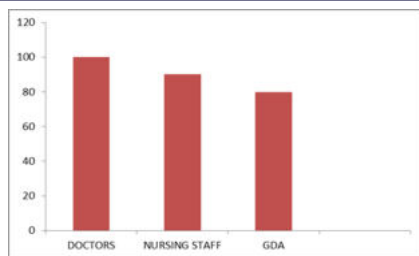
KNOWLEDGE OF COLOUR CODING



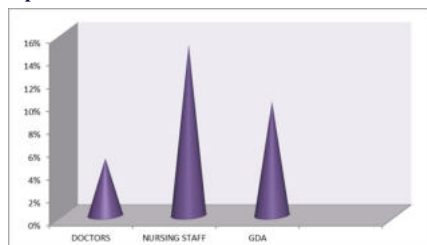
WORKSHOPS ATTENDED



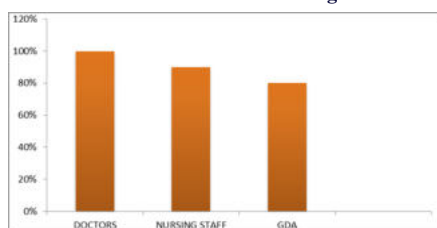
ATTITUDE OF STAFF: BMW as Health Hazard



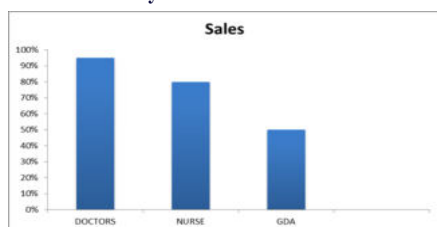
BMW Disposal as Extra Burden



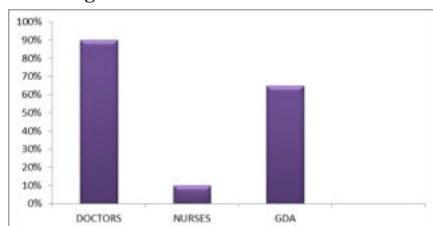
Practice Protective Measures while Handling BMW



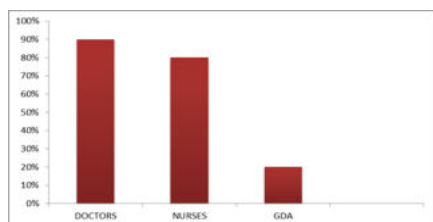
Know BIO-HAZARD Symbol



Maximum Storage Time of Hazardous Waste



Know about the Existence of BMW rule

**CONCLUSION:**

All groups had a positive attitude towards the management of BMW. The usefulness of the colour coding chart can be seen as a highlight of the study. Continuous training should be an integral part of BMW management, and its usefulness should be evaluated.

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