

EFFECTIVENESS OF PLANNED TEACHING PROGRAMME ON BIOMEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT AMONG SANITARY WORKERS IN SELECTED HOSPITALS AT PUDUCHERRY

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Abstract

Hospital waste makes up a major part of all the hazardous wastes generated in the country. Being health care professionals, we take important part on Bio Medical Waste management (BMW). The researcher was interested to educate Hospital sanitary workers regarding the bio medical waste management. The study was conducted at Aarupadai Veedu Medical College & Hospital, Puducherry among the Hospital Sanitary workers. Probability simple random sampling technique was used. Sixty subjects were selected for this study. Pretest conducted, the mean percentage was 13% and then PTP on bio medical waste management was carried out for the group. Mean percentage of post test was 70%. Paired't' test was used to assess the effectiveness of intervention, the results showed that, planned teaching programme on bio medical waste management was effective. Chi-square test was used to find out the association between selected demographic variables and pretest knowledge score and the result showed no association. The PTP on bio medical waste management was helpful for the sanitary workers.

Key Words: Bio-medical Waste Management (BMW), Hospital Sanitary Workers, PTP (planned teaching programme).

Background

All activities of living things on the earth produce waste in some form or the other. Normally aerobic and anaerobic process in the environment degrades such products. Hospital is one of the complex institution which is frequented by people from every walk of life in the society. The hospital waste gives a threat to public health environment. One estimate shows that 5.2 million people (including 4 million children) die each year from waste related diseases. Globally the amount of municipal waste generated has doubled by the year 2000 and will quadruple by the year 2025. Keeping in view the inappropriate biomedical waste management the Ministry of Environment and Forest notified the “**Biomedical waste (management and handling) Rules” July 1998** in India. According to these rules, it is the duty of every employer to take steps to ensure that the waste generated is handled without adverse effects to human health and environment. The study conducted by **Gessner BD, during 1998-2003** in Alaska showed that, there is association between lack of piped water and sewage services with lower respiratory tract infection in children.

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Need of the Study

Hospital waste poses significant impact on health & environment. Hospital waste makes up a major part of all the hazardous wastes generated in the country. Segregation of the different types of waste is practiced in nearly all of the hospitals. Various studies revealed that approximately 10% of solid waste is hazardous in nature consisting mainly of infectious, pathological and chemical wastes. There is an urgent need for raising awareness & education on medical waste issues. Proper waste management strategy is needed to ensure health and environment safety. This study is focusing on these aspects.

World health forum conducted a study on solid waste disposal in district hospital. Hospital waste is not necessary to dispose in most cases but it can be safely dumped in a properly designed waste pit. Waste management problems at district hospitals in developing countries are usually caused more by lack of information than by financial or technical difficulties.

Therefore, the present study was conducted to know the current status of employee's awareness regarding biomedical waste management and help the authorities to develop the strategy for improving the situation in future.