

REPORT

Annual National Conference of Indian Society of Hospital Waste Management on Healthcare Waste Management, 17 – 18 July 2022

Proceedings of the Hyderabad Conference

The Indian Society of Hospital Waste Management (ISHWM) Conference 2022, hosted in the vibrant city of Hyderabad, emerged as a resounding success and a pivotal moment in the field of hospital waste management. Dr. KT Reddy, the distinguished Organizing Chairperson, played a pivotal role in orchestrating this prestigious event.

This conference, held on 17 & 18 June 2022 at the Gandhi Medical College, in Hyderabad, India, brought together an assembly of experts, practitioners, and stakeholders in the arena of hospital waste management. ISHWM Conference 2022 served as a comprehensive platform for knowledge exchange and the exploration of innovative solutions to address the pressing challenges in healthcare waste management.

Under the able guidance of Dr. KT Reddy, renowned for his contributions to the healthcare and environmental sectors, the conference showcased cutting-edge research, emerging trends, and best practices. The event fostered an environment of collaboration and synergy, encouraging participants to discuss the latest advancements in waste disposal techniques, recycling, and sustainable practices within healthcare institutions. It highlighted an array of subjects, including advancements in waste segregation, disposal, and recycling technologies, the integration of eco-friendly practices, and regulatory compliance. The discussions revolved around the critical importance of mitigating environmental impact and promoting public health by effectively managing hospital waste.

One of the notable features of ISHWM Conference 2022 was its commitment to fostering collaboration and innovation. The conference served as a platform for the presentation of research findings and solutions from experts and organizations at the forefront of the field. It provided participants with a rich opportunity to exchange ideas and establish partnerships, transcending geographical boundaries and institutional affiliations. The event served as a knowledge repository, with practical insights and implementable solutions for healthcare waste management.

The conference not only celebrated past accomplishments but also set a robust foundation for future endeavors, emphasizing the vital role of hospital waste management in safeguarding public health and environmental sustainability. It was a remarkable event that reinforced the commitment of professionals and organizations to making a positive impact on healthcare waste management in India and beyond.



ISHWM/01/Policy/Corr

***PAST ACTIVITIES, COMPOSITE WORK EXPERIENCE, RECOMMENDATIONS,
AND FOLLOW UP ACTION***

INDIAN SOCIETY OF HOSPITAL WASTE MANAGEMENT (ISHWM)

Indian Society of Hospital Waste Management has been active since its inception. Its recommendations have been taken seriously by healthcare planners & providers, as well the Govt Agencies like MoEF, CPCB, and State Pollution Boards and Committees. It's Founder President, Air Mshl Lalji K Verma, AVSM (Retd) is member in the Steering Committee of MoEF on Hospital Waste Management.

Some of the recommendations made during past few years, and accepted are as follows:

Biomedical Waste Management Issues:

- Based on studies and research projects guideline for hospital waste management in Armed Forces Hospitals were developed which have since been adopted and are operational.
- Based on Recommendations Joint Services Guidelines (Armed Forces) for Hospital Waste Management was finalised, and issued.
- A video film of 30 mts duration was made on hospital waste management system at the Air Force Hospital Bangalore, as a collaborative project with Jain Communications; and is being used for educational purposes by IGNOU.
- Rules have been amended to include DGAFMS as one of the 'Prescribed Authority' in the BMW Rules – 1998
- Its founder President Air Mshl LK Verma applied and was granted research project to develop a monograph on Hospital Waste Management under 'USERS Scheme' by the DST. Project was completed and a book – "Managing Healthcare Waste – a Practical Approach" was published in 2007 (ISBN – 81-87966-61-0).
- Based on initiative of the Society WHO-SEARO & IGNOU collaborative project was launched for developing a Certificate Course in Hospital Waste Management for the SEA Region Countries on Distance Education Model. The course commenced in January, 2006

and continues in India and countries of SE Asia.

- System Application for hospital waste management has been the core theme of recommendations of the Society. Comprehensive waste management system laid down at the Bangalore Air Force Hospital has been regularly evaluated and maintained based on recommendations of the Society. It was inspected by Parliamentary Committee on Subordinate Legislation (India) and commented upon very favourably. Govt of Karnataka declared the Hospital 'Environmentalist of the Year' in the year 2001.
- Delhi Declaration was issued and sent to all concerned Govt agencies and health institutions consequent to conference in the year 2006.
- The Society has been a catalyst in improving awareness in the subject of hospital waste management in the country by conducting projects, holding regular conferences, workshops, and seminars. Some of the past activities of the society are listed below:
 - ✓ A training workshop was held at the Sufdarjung Hospital in collaboration with the hospital and Dept of Health of Govt of NCT of Delhi on December 24, 2009.
 - ✓ Conducted External Audit of waste management in selected 10 hospitals in Delhi as a project granted by Dept of Health, Govt of NCT of Delhi. Project was completed in stipulated six months - September, 2008 to March 2009. Project was completed within the timeframe and report has since been submitted to the Department of health, Government of NCT of Delhi. Main findings were that there was some improvement in segregation and safety measures. Medical staff showed greater concern towards safe handling and associated risks. However, there was lack of structured awareness, training programmes, SOP, protocols, and guidelines resulting in very slow progress towards achieving 'best practices' in the management of BMW. Sharp management was grossly neglected area.
 - ✓ Department of Health, Govt of NCT of Delhi had constituted an independent committee to look into the complaint of residents of Sukhdev Vihar about alleged pollution being caused by operating a bio medical waste incinerator near their residential colony, and appointed the President, ISHWM chairman of the committee. The committee made several visits to the site of CBWTF, Okhla, as well as the residents of Sukhdev Vihar. The committee examined all relevant papers heard views of the residents, and the CBWTF operator, and came to conclusion that possible health effects to the nearby population could not be ruled out, and the fear of the residents was not without basis. The committee therefore recommended that the incinerator may be moved out to another alternative location. It came to light that chairman DPCC had already moved papers for allocation for an alternative site. In the meantime the committee recommended that waste load on the incinerator be reduced by putting category 3 and 6 in red bags (meant for autoclave) and not in the yellow bags (meant for incinerator), and then shredded after disinfection. Only waste category 1 and 2 is put in yellow bags meant for incineration. The report was submitted to the dept of Health, Govt of NCT of Delhi vide ISHWM/Projects/07/Corr dated January 15, 2008.

- ✓ Consequent to some doubt about working of the APL (Automated Programme Logic) system attached with the incinerator, Chairman DPCC has requested ISHWM chairman (with others) to carry out an inspection and submit a report. Inspection was carried out on the 15th of October, 2008 with Dr TK Joshi, and Rep DPCC; and it was found that APL system was working satisfactorily. Report was submitted.
- ✓ President ISHWM along with Member Sec DPCC, and Scientific officer, DPCC were tasked to examine some alternate sites to relocate the incinerator from Okhla. The team visited some sites near Narela, and inspected suggested land sites along with the local patwari etc on 24th October, 2008. It was deduced that all sites at the vicinity of Narela shown to the team as possible sites were not suitable due to varied reasons. A report has been submitted.
- ✓ Hosted annual conferences - First conference (founding Conference) at the Air force auditorium, New Delhi in 2000, at MS Ramiah Medical College, Bangalore in 2001, at IHMR Jaipur in 2002, at AFMC, Pune in 2003, at the Army Hospital R & R in 2004, at INHS Asvini, Mumbai in 2005, at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi in 2006 and at the India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi in September 2007. AGM meetings were held in the year 2008 and 2009. Annual conference 2010 was held in IHC, New Delhi – October 2010.
- ✓ Held a mid- term conference in April 2004 at the Air Force Hospital, Bangalore.
- ✓ Issued Delhi Declaration after the annual conference 2006.
- ✓ Hosted a workshop jointly with WHO-India in New Delhi on 31st May 2000 where all hospitals who were awarded WHO aided pilot projects (there were 10 civil hospitals apart from the Air Force Hospital, Bangalore from the Armed Forces, granted support from WHO India for the pilot project during 1999-2000 biennium) participated and discussed progress on their projects.
- ✓ A representative of the society is in the committee of the DGAFMS (who is a 'prescribed authority' under BMW 1998, as amended), to render advise on authorizing healthcare establishments of the Armed Forces.
- ✓ One of ISHWM members has set up a Common Biomedical Waste Treatment facility at Mumbai.
- ✓ Similarly set up CBWTF at New Delhi and Lucknow.

MSW Projects and Issues:

- One of the members of ISHWM has set up solid waste management at Kolkata,
- Waste water management at Nagpur,
- Waste water management at Bawal Industrial Area in the state of Haryana.

RESOURCES AND INFORMATION**USEFUL WEB RESOURCES:**

- Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules 2016: https://kspcb.gov.in/BMW-Rules-2016_2882019.pdf Bio-
- Medical Waste Management Amendment Rules 2018: [https://kspcb.gov.in/BMW-\(A\)Rules-2016.pdf](https://kspcb.gov.in/BMW-(A)Rules-2016.pdf) Guidelines for Healthcare Facility: https://kspcb.gov.in/Guidelines_healthcare%20facility_June_2018.pdf Bio-Medical Waste Management Amendment Rules 2019: [https://kspcb.gov.in/BMW-\(A\)Rules-2019.pdf](https://kspcb.gov.in/BMW-(A)Rules-2019.pdf)
- <https://www.biomedicalwastemanagementinindia.in/> Resources For Training And Capacity Building of human resources for bio medical waste management