



ABSTRACT

This study was carried out to analyze veterinary healthcare waste management practices in two veterinary hospitals of Lahore i.e. University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (UVAS) and Veterinary Research Institute (VRI) and one hospital in Faisalabad i.e. University of Agriculture (UAF), to describe the current practices and impact of health care solid waste on environment and to determine the awareness regarding waste management policy and the level of compliance to the health care waste management guidelines. For this purpose different sections like anatomy, therionological, pathological and outdoor were selected from each hospital. The waste generated in these places was collected after the intervals of three months from each hospital / institute. In all studied Hospitals/institute, the waste was categorized only as infectious and non-infectious but not segregated, therefore, the staff was requested to separate the waste in specific bags provided to them. The University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF) waste management team use proper precautionary measures while treating animal waste such as wearing long coat, gloves and long boots. In University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (UVAS), the average waste generated was 110 kg/day and 600 kg/week, in Veterinary Research Institute (VRI) 78.5 kg/day and 450 kg/week and in UAF Hospital the total waste generated was 55 kg/day and 310 kg/week. In Veterinary research institute Lahore, veterinary doctors had professional knowledge about waste management practice and give training to sanitary staff regarding waste handling. Among all hospitals/institute under study Veterinary Research Institute had waste management plan. The transportation of waste was carried out in uncovered trolleys in The University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences Lahore, in Veterinary Research Institute Lahore it was done in covered trolleys while in UAF waste was transported in wheel barrows, push carts and mostly in uncovered trolleys. The final disposal of animal waste was incineration in all hospitals/institute. Among all hospitals/institute Veterinary Research Institute separate had ash storage room. It is observed that well-coordinated and rigorously implemented waste management plan is required to be shared for every hospital. It was found that medical waste is being collected by sweepers and carried to the disposal site through hand carts and trolleys



within hospital premises. The management of hospital waste requires hygienically approved method of disposal as it poses health risk to paramedical staff, sanitary workers and public.