



## ABSTRACT

This study was carried out to analyze the medical waste management system in different public tertiary healthcare facilities (Services, Jinnah and Childrens Hospital) and to describe the current practices and to assess the level of awareness about hospital waste management rules and the implementation of the guidelines regarding hospital waste management system. For these purpose different sections like emergency ward, surgical ward, operation theatre, outdoor and laboratory were selected from each hospital. The waste generated in these places was analyzed consecutively for six days in a week in each hospital. In all studied Hospitals the waste was categorized only as infectious, non-infectious and sharp waste which were being segregated at the source. The Childrens Hospital, Lahore waste management team was following somehow the rules for waste management but Services and Jinnah hospital have no proper waste management system. Medical staffs don't take interest in the monitoring of waste management system within the hospitals. In selected hospitals, the average waste generated was 2kg/bed/day out of which 0.5kg is the infectious waste but the quantity of infectious waste generation varied in ward type i-e in surgical ward the pathological waste is higher than emergency ward. In all hospitals under study waste management policy was not present. The final disposal of infectious waste was incineration in all hospitals and all of the infectious waste was being incinerated in Childrens hospitals for free of cost.

It is proved that well designed and rigorously implemented waste management plan is required to be employed for every hospital. It was found that medical waste was being collected by sweepers and carried to the disposal site manually and trolleys within hospital premises. The management of hospital waste needs hygienically ratified method of disposal as it poses health risk to paramedical staff, sanitary workers and public.