

Bio-Medical Waste Management – A Short Review

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Abstract

According to the Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998 and amendments, bio-medical waste is any waste that is produced during the diagnosis, treatment, or immunization of humans or animals, or in research activities related to those activities, or in the production of biological testing, including categories listed in schedule 1 of the Rule. In India, the private sector is responsible for more than 80% of all healthcare spending. It will be difficult to considerably increase public health expenditure until the combined central and state government deficit, which is now at about 9%, decreases. The expansion of this industry has improved patient care while simultaneously generating vast quantities of bio-medical waste, which has had a negative impact on the environment. According to estimates, hospitals in our nation produce between 0.5-2 kg of garbage per bed per day, and India produces 0.33 million tons of waste yearly. The majority of the waste produced at hospitals and other institutions is made up of solids and liquids, which can be harmful, infectious, or not. An estimated 85% of hospital wastes are truly non-hazardous, 10% are contagious, and 5% are non-infectious yet hazardous, according to a WHO assessment.