Int J Waste Resour 2017, 7:4 (Suppl)

DOI: 10.4172/2252-5211-C1-009

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5th World Convention on

RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

September 11-12, 2017 Singapore

Impact of waste disposal and treatment plant in the urban settings: A descriptive study from Kerala

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The objective of the study is to understand and compare the physical health status of the people living in the immediate vicinity and far vicinity village from the waste treatment plant. India is a developing nation as well as shown an increased waste generation pattern largely due to rapid population growth, the size of their urban populations and the adoption of high-consumption lifestyles. The waste management becomes an issue in Kerala due to its improper handling and disposal methods. Vilappilsala is a village 14 km away from the Thiruvananthapuram city and chosen for setting the waste treatment plant for the treatment of the solid waste generated in the urban community in the city. When the plant started functioning, it became threat to the life of local community due to the improper waste handling practices. The pollutants were extended through air, water, soil and the emergence of insects also increased the incidence of diseases. The local community has a significant impact on their health. A descriptive research design followed in the study and purposive sampling method were used for data collection. The data was collected by administrating the self-structured questionnaires among the test and control population. The study finding shows that there is a remarkable difference in the health status of the people (particularly in general health, respiratory health) living in the immediate vicinity and far vicinity village from the waste treatment plant in Vilappilsala. The study also reveals that there is a great discrepancy in skin problems between the two populations.

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