

**Impact of medical waste management trainings intervention for improved behaviors of hospital workers in Pakistan**Ramesh Kumar<sup>1</sup>, Ratana Somrongthong<sup>1</sup> and Jamil Ahmed<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>Chulalongkorn University, Thailand<sup>2</sup>Arabian Gulf University, Bahrain

**Objective:** The aim of this study was to evaluate the sustainability and effectiveness of training as an intervention to improve the knowledge, attitude and practices of hospital workers on health care waste management.

**Method:** We conducted this quasi-experimental study in two tertiary care teaching hospitals in Rawalpindi in October 2013. Training, practical demonstrations and reminders on standard waste management were given to 138 hospital workers in one hospital and compared with 137 workers from the control hospital. We collected data 18 months after intervention through a structured questionnaire to assess the impact of the intervention. We used paired t-test to compare the scores on knowledge, attitude and practices at baseline and first follow up and final impact assessment. Chi square test was used to compare group variables between intervention and control groups.

**Results:** After 18 months since intervention the mean scores on knowledge attitude and practices differed statistically significantly since baseline and intervention group had statistically significantly better knowledge positive attitudes and good health care waste management practices ( $p < 0.001$ ). Health care and sanitary workers in intervention group scored statistically significantly higher ( $p < 0.001$ ).

**Conclusion:** Trainings of health and sanitary workers on health care waste management guidelines were sustainable among the intervention group after 18 months which shows the positive impact of our intervention. It is recommended that the trainings as intervention be included in the overall policies of the public and private sector hospitals in Pakistan and other similar settings.

**Biography**

Ramesh Kumar is a public health professional with sound expertise in Health Systems Dynamics especially health systems governance and policy planning concerning hospital management, infection control, environmental and occupational health, human resources in health, RH, health policy, hospital management, administration, strategic planning, financing, reforms and capacity building. He demonstrated an exceptional understanding of different public health facets such as hospital management, human resources for health, maternal & child health, reproductive health, social marketing of health, social determinants of health, and health systems analysis. He is carrying a diverse experience of research, advocacy and service in public health and been involved in qualitative as well as quantitative analysis and research works. He has worked in various projects on health systems, HRH, environmental health, RH, quality of care, health education, promotion and communication for international and national public health and social development organizations. He has worked as Consultant (team leader) with World Health Organization, UN Organizations, GHWA, USAID and WHO/EMRO. His flagship work on hospital infection control, hospital waste management and human resource for health has become a cutting edge in the field. His research work is extensively disseminated through more than 50 peer reviewed publications in both national and international indexed journals. He has vast teaching and research supervision experience for undergraduate and postgraduate public health, health policy and management graduates.

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