

**Comparison of Hospital Waste Management Practices at
Public Teaching Hospitals of
Lahore**



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ABSTRACT

This is a cross-sectional descriptive study, aimed to compare HWM practices of two public teaching hospitals i.e. Jinnah Hospital and Service Hospital in Lahore, to describe the qualitative and quantitative results of analysis, observations, interviews and data collected from different groups of hospital staff by questionnaire. Research was conducted from 1st, May to 25th June 2014. Objective of study was to assess the current risk waste management practices and compliance level with hospital waste management rules-2005 and to determine the characteristics of hospital wastewater in these hospitals. The HWM practices in both hospitals were systematic but the hospital staff handling the waste was not fully aware of accurate segregation of the hospital wastes. Our findings reveal a major policy implementation gap, among the government and the hospitals. Wastewater parameters of both hospitals revealed that wastewater from both public teaching hospitals were contaminating the water resources. Effectively implementation of waste management strategies, monitoring, motivation, communication and awareness at all levels is the key to success. Hospital wastewater treatment is not a priority in both hospitals. It is the need of the day that all health care facilities must follow the national guide lines on HWM and there should be a documented and approved waste management protocol which should be strictly implemented.

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DEDICATION

I dedicate my research work to my family and especially to my father Dr. Anjum Iqbal for encouraging me to complete my Masters thesis. It's not possible to complete this thesis without you as my background. This thesis especially dedicated to my wonderful Maternal Grand Father Ch. Arshad Iqbal. For his love, encouragement and supports from heaven.

ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired immune deficiency syndrome
BOD	Biological Oxygen Demand
CSF	Central Storage Facility
COD	Chemical Oxygen Demand
DO	Dissolve Oxygen
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
HWM	Hospital Waste Management
NEQS	National Environmental Quality Standards
PEPA	Pakistan Environmental Protection Act
PPE	Personnel Protective Equipment
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
SH	Service Hospital
JH	Jinnah Hospital
WMP	Waste Management Plan
HWW	Hospital Waste Water
WHO	World Health Organization
WMT	Waste Management Team
WWT	Waste Water Treatment

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