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RESEARCH ARTICLE

“TO ASSESS KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE AMONG HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS REGARDING HOSPITAL WASTE MANAGEMENT IN SKIMS SOURA”.

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Abstract

Aim of the study: To Assess Knowledge and Practice among Health Care Providers Regarding Hospital Waste Management.

Conclusion: In our study, it was seen that nurses have more knowledge and practice regarding segregation than other studied subjects. Technicians were having more knowledge regarding legislation applicable to hospital waste management.

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Introduction:-

Hospital is a place of almighty, a place to serve the patient. Since beginning the hospitals are known for treatment of sick persons, but we are unaware about the adverse effects of garbage and filth generated by them on human body and environment. Hospital waste is a potential health hazard to the health care workers, public and flora and fauna of the area. Hospital acquired infections, transfusions, transmitted diseases, rising incidence of Hepatitis & HIV etc leads to increase in possibility of catching many diseases. This problem has now become a serious threat & ultimately the central government had to intervene for enforcing proper handling & disposal of hospital waste & an act was passed in July 1996 & a biomedical waste (handling & management) rule was introduced in 1998.

Hospital waste refers to all waste generated discarded and not intended for further use in hospital. India generates 1.5kg/bed/day hospital waste which includes both hazardous and non hazardous.

Hospital waste management collection and proper disposal has become a significant concern for both medical and general community.

Every health care personnel is expected to have proper knowledge, proper practice and capacity to guide others for waste collection and management and proper handling techniques

Objectives Of The Study:-

1. To assess the knowledge of health care providers regarding hospital waste management.
2. To find out existing practices of hospital waste management among selected sample.
3. To determine the association of knowledge & Practice with selected factors:
 1. Year of Experience.
 2. Qualification.
 3. Age.
 4. Gender.

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5. Residence.
4. To assess the level of application of policies of the hospital by the health care providers.

Methodology:-

The research methodology refers to a set of orderly disciplined procedure involved in the purposeful collection analysis & interpretation of the data. This chapter describes the research approach, research design, setting of study sample & sampling technique, instrument for data collection & plan for data analyzing of the present study.

Research Approach:-

Non-experimental based descriptive approach used for gaining pertinent & precise information.

Research Design:-

A descriptive research design was considered appropriate for the present study to assess the knowledge & practice among healthcare providers regarding hospital waste management in SKIMS, Soura Srinagar.

Variables under Study:-

The variables in the study to assess the knowledge & practice of healthcare providers regarding hospital waste management are:-

1. Age
2. Sex
3. Residence
4. Educational Status (Academic)
5. Professional Education
6. Years of Experience

Setting Of the Study:-

The setting for the study was SKIMS Hospital, Soura for the following reasons:-

1. Sample was easily accessible
2. Less time consuming
3. Cost-effective
4. Cooperative staff

Population:-

The target population in this study consists of 50 healthcare providers of SKIMS from whom data was collected during the month of August.

Sample & Sampling Technique:-

A non-probability sampling technique namely convenient sampling was used to make the study more practicable & feasible. The selection of study sample was done based on population (Healthcare Providers) of SKIMS, who had agreed to participate in the study, 10 from each 5 selected areas (SICCU, Causality, General Medicine, General Surgery, and Neonatology Unit).

Presentation And Analysis Of Data:-

Analysis Of Data:-

The data was analysed according to the objectives of the study. Analysis of the data was done after the data was transferred to the master data sheet. The data was analysed based on the objectives and hypothesis. The data is presented in tabular and graphical form; percentages were calculated and interpreted as shown in tables and graphs, respectively

Table 1:-Frequency Distribution of Studied subjects with respect to knowledge about treatment of Hospital Waste.

S. No.	STATEMENT	DOCTORS N=15		NURSES N=25		TECHNICIANS N=10		TOTAL N=50	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1.	Biomedical waste management needs special treatment than general waste.	14	93.33	23	92	10	100	47	94

2.	Discarded medicine, psychotoxic drugs undergo incineration type of treatment.	6	4	16	64	2	20	24	48
3.	Black colour waste bins undergo municipal disposal type of treatment.	9	60	23	92	7	70	39	78
4.	Red colour bins undergo autoclaving type of treatment.	8	53.3	18	72	7	70	33	66
5.	Final disposal of segregated waste.	6	40	10	40	3	30	19	38
6.	Broken thermometer waste is incinerated.	12	80	19	76	5	50	36	72
7.	Incineration ash disposed in municipal landfills.	11	73.33	14	56	7	70	32	64
8.	Inertization process.	4	26.66	5	20	1	10	10	20

Table 2:-Frequency Distribution of the knowledge of the studied subject about the irresponsibility of Health workers towards H W M.

S. No.	STATEMENT	DOCTORS N=15		NURSES N=25		TECHNICIANS N=10		TOTAL N=50	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1.	Waste management is the responsibility of Head of hospital	11	73.33	20	80	7	70	48	96
	a. Head of department	7	46.66	17	68	7	70	31	62
	b. Nursing supervisor	11	73.33	21	84	8	80	40	80
	c. Hospital engineer	5	33.33	04	16	3	30	12	24
	d. Infection control officer	12	80	25	100	9	90	46	92
	e. Pharmacist	1	6.66	6	24	3	30	10	20
	f. Lab supervisor	6	40	18	72	5	50	29	58

Table 3:-Frequency Distribution of Studied subject to practice with respect to regarding Handling of Hospital Waste.

S. No.	STATEMENT	DOCTORS N=15		NURSES N=25		TECHNICIANS N=10		TOTAL N=50	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1.	Clearly defined procedures for collection and handling of wastes from specified units in hospital	12	80	21	84	8	80	41	82
2.	Waste handler using any protective clothing(gloves,etc.)	15	100	22	88	9	90	46	92
3.	Collected waste is transported in a proper way from the source	11	73.33	20	80	4	40	35	70
4.	Segregated waste is properly stored,before it is removed from the hospital	7	46.66	22	88	6	60	35	70

Table 4:-Frequency Distribution of Studied subject with respect to practice regarding training of Health personals towards Hospital Waste Management.

S. No.	STATEMENT	DOCTORS N=15		NURSES N=25		TECHNICIANS N=10		TOTAL N=50	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1	Ever attended seminar or workshop,etc. regarding waste management	4	26.66	13	52	4	40	21	42

Table 5:-Frequency Distribution of Studied subject with respect to practice regarding implementation of right practice of Hospital Waste.

S. No.	STATEMENT	DOCTORS N=15		NURSES N=25		TECHNICIANS N=10		TOTAL N=50	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%

1.	Consistency in the work of segregation of wastes, even though there is heavy workload in the area	7	46.66	23	92	8	80	38	76
2.	Influence of effective practice of waste management on patient care	13	86	23	92	10	100	46	92
3.	Ever stopped a person performing wrong practice of waste segregation in the hospital	9	60	22	88	8	80	39	78
4.	Implementation of practice of waste management in real sense, according to the policy of waste management	8	53.33	22	88	10	100	40	80

Table 6:-Frequency Distribution of Studied subject with respect to knowledge regarding segregation of Hospital Waste.

S. No.	STATEMENT	DOCTORS N=15		NURSES N=25		TECHNICIANS N=10		TOTAL N=50	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1.	Awareness regarding segregation of hospital waste	14	93.33	24	96	10	100	48	96
2.	Segregation an important aspect of waste management	14	93.33	24	96	10	100	48	96
3.	Colour coded bins effective for hospital waste management	13	86.66	25	100	10	100	48	96
4.	Plastic containers are suitable for segregation of hospital waste	15	100	24	96	9	90	48	96
5.	Paper wastes, domestic wastes,etc., are put in yellow colour bins	9	60	18	72	6	60	33	66
6.	Human biopsy wastes, organs, blood,pathological wastes are put in red colour bins	8	53.53	23	92	10	100	41	82
7.	Needles,catheters,angiocaths,etc., are put in black colour bins	8	53.53	23	92	7	70	38	76
8.	Is waste generated from emergency wards more in amount than produced from SICCU	12	80	16	64	6	60	34	68
9.	Segregation is responsibility of every health care provider	15	100	24	96	10	100	49	98

Table 7:-Frequency Distribution of Studied subject with respect to knowledge regarding availability of various facilities regarding hospital waste management.

S. No.	STATEMENT	DOCTORS N=15		NURSES N=25		TECHNICIANS N=10		TOTAL N=50	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1.	Availability of manual or guidelines document on management of hospital waste	10	66.66	14	56	4	40	28	56
2.	Management plan	11	73.33	22	88	10	100	43	86
3.	Management team	10	66.66	23	92	9	90	42	84
4.	Waste gets reused or recycled in the hospital	2	13.33	6	24	1	10	9	18

Table 8:-Frequency Distribution of Studied subject with respect to knowledge regarding awareness of legislation applied to hospital waste management.

S. No.	STATEMENT	DOCTORS N=15		NURSES N=25		TECHNICIANS N=10		TOTAL N=50	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1	Awareness about any legislation applied to hospital waste	4	26.66	8	32	5	50	17	34

Table 9:-Frequency Distribution of Studied subject with respect to knowledge regarding hazards of Hospital Waste Management.

S. No.	STATEMENT	DOCTORS N=15		NURSES N=25		TECHNICIANS N=10		TOTAL N=50	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1.	Biomedical waste is always infectious.	6	40	2	8	0	0	8	16
2.	Colour coding avoids mixing of hazardous and non-hazardous waste.	15	100	24	96	9	90	48	96
3.	Improper hospital waste management is an important cause of hospital acquired infection.	13	86.67	25	100	10	100	48	96
4.	Appropriate management of hospital waste a critical component of environment health protection.	15	100	23	92	10	100	48	96

Conclusion:-

At the end of our study “A study to assess the knowledge and practice among the health care providers towards hospital waste management in SKIMS Soura.”

Samples of 50 respondents, 15 doctors, 25 nurses, and 10 technicians were taken. Methodology used was “descriptive” and also used “questionnaire” and “structured interview schedule” as a tool for our study and collected data accordingly.

The data is presented in the form of graphs and tables, was collected through the questionnaire.

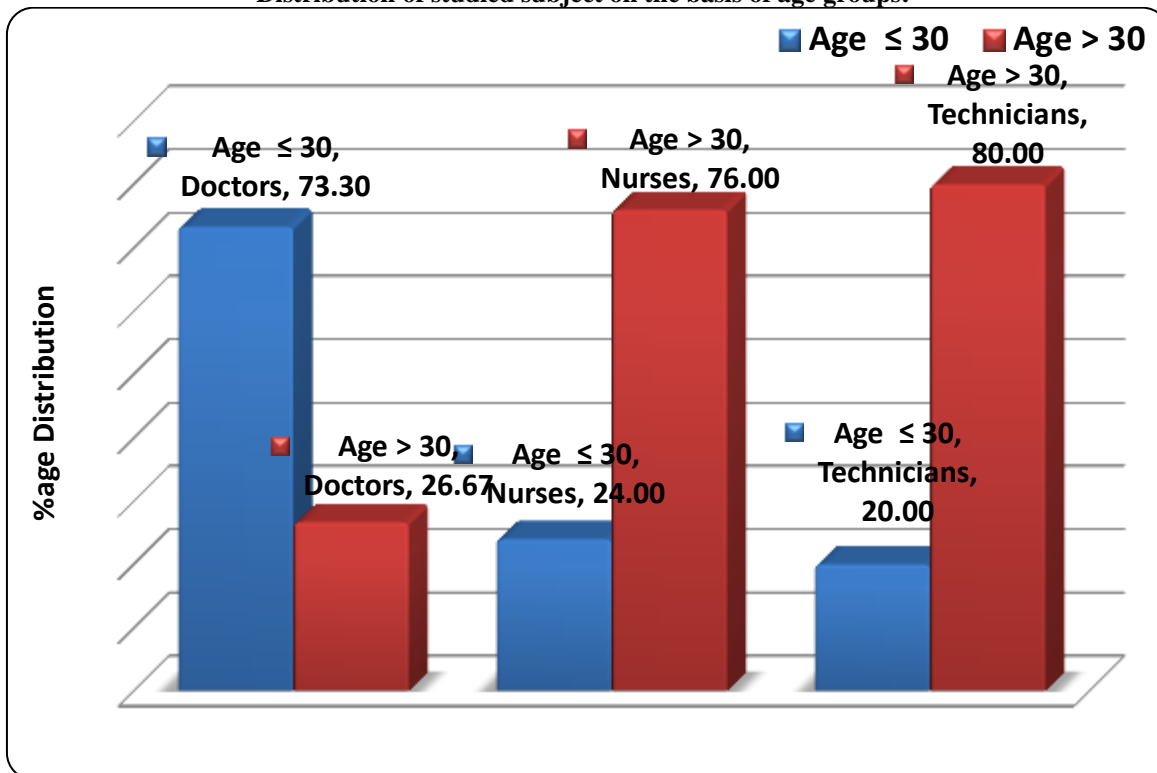
In our study, it was seen that nurses have more knowledge and practice regarding segregation than other studied subjects.

Technicians were having more knowledge regarding legislation applicable to hospital waste management. It was also evident from the study that nurses were having more knowledge about treatment procedures available in SKIMS.

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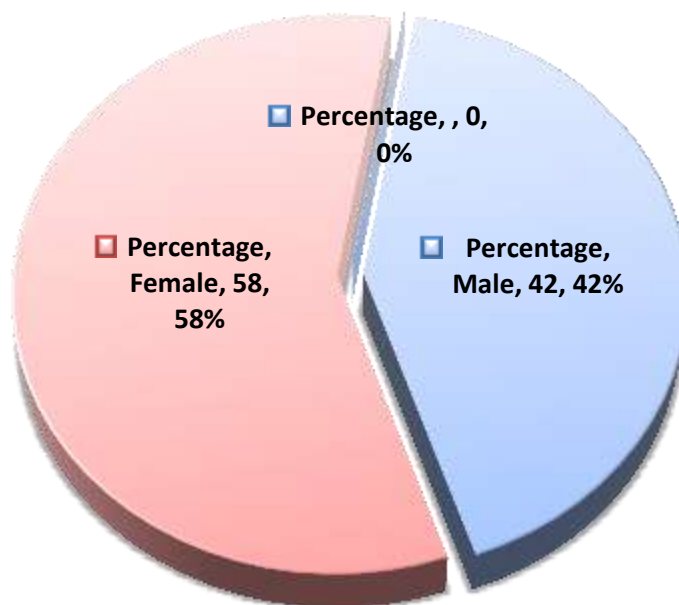
Conflict of interest:- There are no conflicts of interest.

Distribution of studied subject on the basis of age groups:-

**Interpretations:-**

1. Among Doctors 73.3% are ≤ 30 and 26.67 are > 30 years of age.
2. Among Nurses 24% are ≤ 30 and 76 are > 30 years of age.
3. Among Technicians 20% are ≤ 30 and 60% are > 30 years of age.

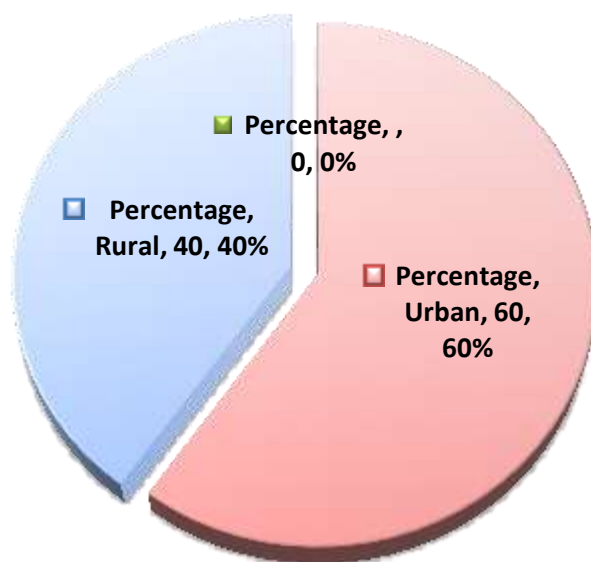
Pie Chart showing distribution of Gender among the studied subjects.



Interpretations:-

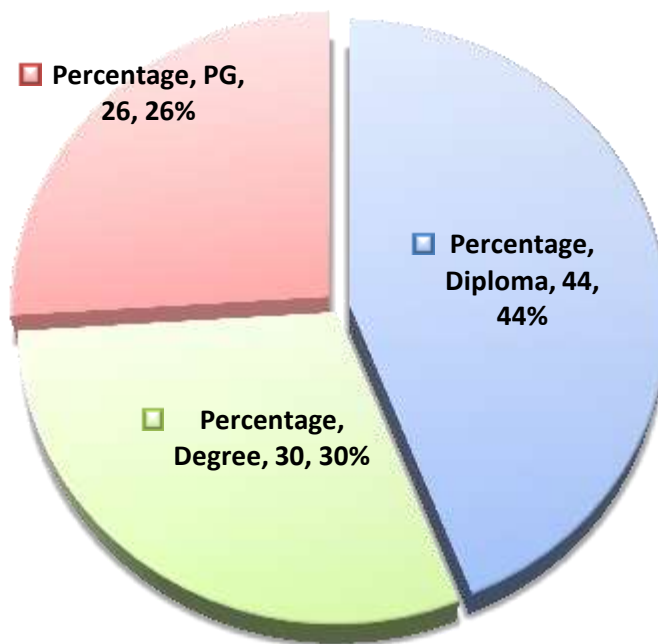
Among the studied subjects 42% are male and 58% are female, which include doctors, nurses and Technicians.

Pie Chart showing distribution of Residence among the studied subjects.

**Interpretations:-**

Among the studied subjects 60% belong to urban areas and 40% belong to rural areas, which include doctors, nurses and Technicians.

Pie Chart showing distribution of Professional Education of the studied subjects.



Interpretations:-

Among the studied subjects 44% are Diploma Holders, 30% are Degree Holders and 26% are PG's which include doctors, nurses and Technicians.

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