



INDIAN SOCIETY OF HOSPITAL WASTE MANAGEMENT

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QUARTERLY NEWS BULLETIN

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Current Practice of Waste Disposal in some Hospital in the United States of America

Air Marshal LK Verma, AVSM, Director General Medical Services (Air) and President of the Indian Society of Hospital Waste Management (ISHWM) had been to Rio De Janeiro (Brazil) from 17 to 21 September 2000 to attend 48th International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine in the capacity of ex-officio President of the Indian Society of Aerospace Medicine. While returning back, he visited few hospitals in the United States of America where San-I-Pak steriliser/Compactor are installed. The system installed at Graduate Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (345 beds) is a San-I-Pak 242 L steriliser/Compactor with a capacity of 150 kgs per hour and at North Penn Hospital in Lansdale, Pennsylvania San-I-Pak 240 - 3P with a processing capacity of 75kgs per hour are functioning. The system works on heat energy with controlled temperature and pressure. It has a compactor attached. By and large the system is operated where manual handling is not required.

Note: This is only for information. Other members are also requested to send their experiences with any system.

International Seminar-Cum-Exhibition on

Bio-Medical Waste Treatment Technologies (ISEBWTT-2000)

The ISEBWTT was organised by ISHWM on 22-23 Dec 2000 at Air Force Auditorium, New Delhi. Dr PC Chaubey and Wg Cdr JN Srivastava were Chairman and Organising Secretary. The Seminar-cum-Exhibition was inaugurated by Air Marshal LK Verma, DGMS (Air) and President ISHWM. Souvenir brought out on this occasion was released by Lt Gen Harcharan Singh, DGMS (Army). Overall response of trade personnel and participants was enthusiastic. There were eight exhibition stalls which displayed various waste treatment technologies namely incinerator, Hydroclave, Microwave, Vermicomposting, Syringe and needle destroyer or combination of some of these technologies.

Mr Dilip Biswas, Chairman CPCB and Mr Ravi Aggarwal, Chief Co-ordinator NGO- "Shrasti" also attended the Seminar. Panel discussion at the end of the seminar was very meaningful and thought provoking, which gave actual insight of waste management problems in hospitals.

Academic Activities at AFMC Pune Pertaining to

Bio-Medical Waste Handling & Disposal

Armed Forces Medical College, Pune has been quite active in dealing with various aspects of hospital waste management. Some of these are listed below :-

- ☞ Department of Hospital Administration at AFMC has developed a training module syllabi for graduate and postgraduate students which will form the basis of training in the Armed Forces.
- ☞ A Research Project for bio-medical waste disposal at AFMC, Pune was sanctioned by Director General Armed Forces Medical Services in Jun 1999. Col Zile Singh, Associate Professor, Dept. Of PSM and member, ISHWM is the Principal Investigator of the project. It is hoped that this project will be completed by 31 May 2001.
- ☞ Essential equipment such as autoclave, needle & Syringe destroyers, plastic containers and bags, protective clothing, covered trolleys and disinfectants have been procured/installed. An incinerator is under procurement. Two Vermicomposting pits have been constructed for research.
- ☞ Three workshops have been held in Dept of PSM AFMC during last year. Col J Jayaram, Prof & HOD, Preventive & Social Medicine and a member of ISHWM, faculty members from departments of PSM, Pathology, Microbiology, Bio-Chemistry, Transfusion cell and Hospital Administration actively participated in the workshops. 78 Medical Officers including specialists, 72 paramedical personnel



and 16 safaiwalas were trained in proper management and handling of bio-medical waste with the help of audio-visual aids, group discussions, demonstration of use of protective equipment and distribution of pamphlets in Hindi and English. A manual, brought out on the subject was forwarded to all departments of AFMC for use by all health care personnel. The subject of hospital waste management is included in the syllabi of curriculum for teaching of post-graduate, under-graduate and B.Sc., (Nursing) at AFMC.

Congratulations!

- (a) Founder President of the Indian Society of Hospital Waste Management Air Vice Marshal LK Verma, Additional DGAFMS has been promoted to the rank of Air Marshal and has taken over the appointment of Director General Medical Services (Air) at Air Headquarters, RK Puram, New Delhi - 110 066 with effect from 29 August 2000. He has also been awarded Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM) for distinguished service by the President of India on 26th Jan 2001.
- (b) Dr DB Acharya, Vice President ISHWM, has been appointed Honorary Consultant Hospital Waste Management to the Armed Forces.
- (c) Surgeon Commodore P Sivadas, founder Secretary of ISHWM has been elected as the President of the Indian Association of Pathologists & Microbiologists (IAPM) for the year 2001. He has also been nominated as Vice President (Asia) International Academy of Pathology (IAP).

Approval of Ministry of Defence for the Society

Good-news for members from the Armed Forces Medical Services. The Indian Society of Hospital Waste Management (ISHWM) has been included in the approved list of Ministry of Defence, which enables the Medical Officers of the Armed Forces Medical Services to attend conferences, workshops, seminars, etc of the Society with due permission. The officers from the Armed Forces should utilise this facility to attend all scientific activities to derive maximum benefit. Members should also make an endeavour to present scientific papers during national and international conferences.

-  Activity of the Society are multi-disciplinary covering all branches of the medicine. Aims and objectives of ISHWM includes environmental health, apart from hospital waste management and also environmental safety from health hazards.
-  Officers from all specialities including General Duty Medical Officers, Nurses and Dental & Vet doctors are eligible to become members. The strength of any Association or Society lies in membership. All existing members are requested to give wide publicity and encourage their colleagues to become members of the Society.

First Annual Conference of Indian Society of Hospital Waste Management (ISHWM)

The first annual National Conference of the Society will be held at Bangalore on 25-26 May 2001. Dr D Gopinath, Prof of Community Medicine, MS Ramaiah Medical College and his team have already started the groundwork. The first announcement letter has been issued. Those who are interested in presenting their scientific papers during the conference should act fast and be ready with their articles. Abstracts and other details may be forwarded to the Organising Secretary. Trades may be encouraged to participate. The address of the organising secretary is :

Dr. N Girish, Dept. of Community Medicine
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Head Quarters of the Society

The permanent headquarters of the Society will be at New Delhi and all general correspondence may be addressed to Wg Cdr JN Srivastava, Jt Secretary ISHWM (HQs) Room No 126 Air HQs, RK Puram West Block 6, New Delhi-66 E-mail : dr_srivastava@vsnl.com. However membership forms and queries regarding financial matters may be addressed to Lt Col BK Lakhtakia, Treasurer ISHWM, Room No. 46, 'M' Block, Office of the DGAFMS, Ministry of Defence, New Delhi - 110 001. E-mail : dgafms@ndf.vsnl.net.in

Due to certain unavoidable circumstances publication of third newsletter has been delayed.

For more details on ISHWM log on to our website
www.medwasteind.org

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