



INDIAN SOCIETY OF HOSPITAL WASTE MANAGEMENT

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NEWS BULLETIN

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Message From

The Outgoing President



Dear Friends,

The Society is two years old and exactly on the 2nd Anniversary we had our second conference at Hotel Clarks Amer, Jaipur. During the last two years, the Society has grown from strength to strength and as on today, I am told that membership has increased to 120. Of late, a large number of requests have been coming for membership forms and I think that the name of the Society has finally struck amongst the health care providers all over the country. In this connection I would like to compliment the Indian Medical Association (IMA) who published a small news item in their News Bulletin which has attracted a large response for membership.

It is by this synergetic approach of all the like minded bodies and people that we are likely to achieve a better health care facilities all around the country in the future to come.

The waste management system laid down at Command Hospital (Air Force) Bangalore has been praised by one and all including some foreign experts, of which naturally I am very proud. In the near future, equipment required for hospital waste management (multi-option approach) is likely to be acquired by the office of DGAFMS, which will cover the whole of Armed Forces.

This newsletter is meant for private circulation only.

Therefore, we can see a distinct possibility in the near future that in the Armed Forces (at least) we will have proper hospital waste management system going on at most of the places.

I have been your President for the last two years and I am handing over the charge to Air Mshl SK Dham, AVSM VSM, who I am Sure will further the aims and objectives of the Society. I am sure that the Society will grow even further and make a name for itself.

In the interim period we have also embarked upon an activity which seeks collaboration with the other agencies like WHO, US AEP etc. for forging a relationship where the Society will provide the expertise of laying down the waste management system in the hospitals, as well as training etc.

I always believed that simplest of the observations have made the greatest of the discoveries. Some indications are there that this going to be true once again. As an offshoot to the WHC Project at Command Hospital (Air Force) Bangalore a large number of project ideas have appeared which are being processed. These are; study of microbes mutagenesis in the hospital discards, vermi-composting of infected waste, research in food waste leading to research on why the flies are not attracted to the treated food waste in the hydroclave, better and more durable effective gear and clothing for the waste handlers, developing of training modules for different strata, and perhaps impact (in positive sense) of proper hospital waste management on nosocomial infection and health of the people at large.

The Conference at Jaipur, I am sure those who had attended it, would agree has gone of very well. The inaugural session was attended by not less than 300 people from all over the country including some experts from WHO (I) and WHO (SEARO). Some speakers came from abroad as well. All the dignitaries of the Medical Branch of the Defence Forces and some dignitaries from the civil were prominent by their presence and the interaction with the delegates. The imprint of the Conference was launching of the first issue of the journal of Indian Society of Hospital Waste Management (ISHWM). All the members may have received their free copy by now and those who have not may kindly communicate with the Jt Secy (HQs). The journal has been received in the scientific community in a befitting manner and I am sure that the contents of the journal will further improve in future. The financial position of the Society (considering the young age) is healthy and is improving day by day.

The next Conference has been decided to be held at Pune (AFMC) on 25-26 Apr 2003. I am sure that delegates would have already started thinking and writing papers for the next

Conference. Pune have been the center of scientific activities in the medical field and I am sure the Conference will meet even greater success.

I feel very happy and honoured to have steered the society for the last two years. I am handing over with great sense of satisfaction and expectation for the future.

Wish you all the best and see you in Pune in the year 2003 on 25 Apr 2003.

Jai Hind !

- LKV

Message From The President



Dear Friends,

At outset I extend a very warm and cordial welcome to all members of ISHWM, who have been sheet anchor of the society, since its inception in last two years.

I have been closely observing development and research in the field of Hospital Waste Management in this country, which was a neglected area in Health care set-up till very recently. Now there is a clear paradigm shift in mind-set of Health care professionals, who are becoming aware of their responsibilities, with regards to proper disposal of Hospital Waste, thereby ensuring a clean & safe environment. This attitudinal change was very evident at Command Hospital Air Force Bangalore, where a WHO sponsored hospital waste management project was completed in the year 2000 and the project became a path finder in this field.

ISHWM has made rapid strides since its inception under dynamic leadership of Air Marshal LK Verma AVSM, PHS. Now after taking over the reins of the society, I hope that the society will maintain momentum of growth & development. I solicit co-operation and creative suggestion from all members of the society in this direction.

-SKD

Our link

Website of the Society is operational for viewing at www.medwasteind.org Please contribute with your thought. For details, please contact Surgeon Commodore P Sivadas at psivadas@hotmail.com

Next meeting ground

The next conference will be held at AFMC, Pune on 25-26 April 2003. It is expected that the next conference will have a sizeable number of scientific papers on different aspects of Hospital Waste Management, like use of incinerator, chemical disinfection, SHARP Management, Common Area facility, concept of waste to energy, recycling, liquid waste management, infection control and protection to the waste handlers.

A Report On

The Second Annual Conference Of ISHWM

The second annual conference of the Indian Society of Hospital Waste Management was hosted by the Indian Institute of Health Management Research, Jaipur and was held at Hotel Clarks Amer, Jaipur with the theme of 'Hospital Waste Management: Future Strategies' on 11-12 Apr 2002.

The conference was inaugurated by Shri Rajendra Choudhary, Minister of Health, Government of Rajasthan, and Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of Public Relation was the guest of honour. The honourable ministers talked about the relevance of hospital waste management in today's context and gave a detailed account on actions being taken by the Government of Rajasthan in this area. Shri Rajendra Choudhary informed the audiences that Rs. 10 crores have been sanctioned by the government for hospital waste management this year. Detailed instructions in accordance with the Gazette of India Notification have been issued to all districts for strict compliance.

USAEP was represented by four delegates out of which Mr. Keshava Murthy, Senior Engineer from Washington, presented a paper on Alternate Technologies and Mr. Alexander Von Hilderbrand, Senior Adviser WHO SEARO gave a presentation on Chemical Waste Management in South Asia. Ms Sarah Hedamma came all the way from USA and was representing International Trade Organisation. Mr. Bala Krishnan, Regional Director US AEP (USA) also attended, and Dr T. Walia, Deputy Representative, WHO – India talked about role of WHO in hospital waste management and gave details of 11 projects undertaken by

the WHO throughout the country which generated lot of awareness besides capacity building and providing technical know-how to various organisations in the country.

Air Marshal L. K. Verma, *AVSM, PHS*, President, ISHWM, delivered the Key-note address and talked about various activities of the Society during the last year. Lt Gen R.K. Jetley, *PVSM, VSM, PHS DGAFMS* talked about Waste Management in General. Dr. S.D. Gupta, Director, Indian Institute of Health Management Research, delivered the theme address and Brig. S.K. Puri, *VSM (Retd.)*, President Organising Committee, gave vote of thanks.

A film on proper hospital waste management was also screened which was appreciated by the audience. The film showed the ideal model installed at Command Hospital (Air Force), Bangalore. The film was made by the Society for Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi.

An exhibition showing various technologies used in country was also inaugurated and was visited by not only the delegates but also by hospital administrators of various hospitals in Jaipur. In all, there were five stalls showing incinerators, hydroclaves and autoclaves and common treatment facility installed in the city of Jaipur.

On first day in the first scientific session, Dr. Sati Pathak spoke about role of Hospital Waste Management in Hospital Acquired Infection followed by Role of IGNOU (distance education) in Training & Development of Biomedical Waste was given by Dr. AK Agarwal, IGNOU. The session was chaired by Lt Gen OP Dutt (Retd), Director, MGNIMS and co-chaired by Dr. S Panicker.

Session II was chaired by Dr. Rameshwar Sharma and the speakers were Lt Col AK Naik, Lt Col SKM Rao and Gp Capt HSR Arora who spoke on Planning Infrastructures for Effective Hospital Waste Management, Biomedical Waste Management: An Infrastructural Study of Hospitals in Pune City and Human Resource Development and Empowerment for Hospital Waste Management respectively. In the Session III chaired by Maj Gen Ashim Chakravarti and co-chaired by Mr. Balakrishnan, Dr. Dipali Bhargava spoke on Safety Measures for Handling and Disposal of Hospital Waste, Wg Cdr JN Srivastava on Use of Plastics in Medical Practice.

On the second day there were three sessions; chaired by Dr. Rameshwar Sharma, Lt Gen BN Shahi, *AVSM, VSM, PHS* and Maj Gen JR Bhardwaj, *VSM* and co-chaired by Brig NK Parmar, VrC, Dr. Ashok Bhardwaj and Dr. Alka Rao respectively. Speakers of the day were Mr. Kesava Murthy, US AEP (USA), Dr. Alexander Von Hilderbrand – WHO and

Dr. DB Acharya who spoke on Alternative Technologies, Short Overview on Hazardous Chemical Waste Management in South East Asia Region and Blood Bank respectively.

The arrangement at the conference were of highest order and matching international standards. ISHWM is thankful to Dr. S.D. Gupta, Director IHMR and Brig S.K. Puri, VSM (Retd.), for their full commitment and support for the conference.

ISHWM Journal

Dr. D Gopinath, Editor-in-Chief and his team deserve a standing oration. They have toiled hard and must have burnt mid-night candles, sometimes at cost of their personal comfort in bringing out first issue of ISHWM Journal, which was released at ISHWM-Con-2002. It is commendable feat that the society has successfully brought out the journal within two years of its existence. For the next issue the theme of the journal is "Biomedical Waste – Policy and Legislation". Members are requested to send materials, snaps as articles/news-cuttings/clips etc. highlighting the importance of Hospital Waste Management. The first deadline for the receipt of the articles has been decided to be 30th August 2002.

Congratulations

Dr. PC Choube, Professor, Dept of Hospital Administration, AIIMS & a founder member of ISHWM has been nominated to DPCC.

Update of Members' Register

All the members of the Society are requested to update the 'Register of Members'. Members are also requested to inform the Joint secretary (HQs) about any change(s) in their postal/e-mail address(es). It may also be e-mailed to Jt Secy (HQs) at dr_srivastava@vsnl.com We aim to keep a comprehensive list of all the members with as many details as possible.

1. Title (Dr/Prof./Mr/Mrs/Miss etc.) _____
2. Last Name _____
3. First Name _____

4. Designation _____
5. Organisation _____
6. Mailing Address (Present) _____
7. Mailing Address (Permanent) _____
8. Phone- Residence _____
9. Phone- Office _____
10. Fax Number _____
11. E-mail Address _____

New

Membership Drive

We aim to make the Society a prominent and pioneer scientific body in the field of Hospital Waste Management. All the members of the council have been interacting with various regulatory authorities, companies manufacturing biomedical waste handling equipment and NGOs involved in the arena of environmental and related issues. But that is not enough. Every member must strive to spread the awareness. It is our desire that more and more people get acquainted with the subject of hospital waste management. Thus, all members of the Society should actively participate in the drive of making new members. You will find two membership forms enclosed with this news bulletin - please make sure that at least two new members are sponsored on your behalf- so as to increase the number of professionals committed to the good cause in the world we live in!

Random thoughts

Restricted approach to "WASTE TO ENERGY CONCEPT" Are we on right track?

There are two things going wrong in the consideration of environmental protection. One is compartmentalization and the second in the consideration of waste to energy concept. Whenever one discusses the issue related to Bio-med waste management, or the issue of Solid waste management one tends to consider these aspects separately. It is well known that these two aspects cannot be considered separately. Bio-med waste if not taken care can

pollute the whole of the solid waste must be considered infected and treated as such. Similarly whenever one considers environmental protection, pollution to the aquifer and the air requires to be taken into consideration. Isolated consideration cannot lead to comprehensive solutions.

By and large people are engaging themselves in considering the concepts of "waste to energy" only in the sphere of regeneration of energy from the waste, or perhaps gas for further generation of energy, or the compacted waste to be used as fuel. But all these would require some machinery thus creating end products requiring management as waste. Some of the gadgets required may be non-eco-friendly, like electricity generating plants etc. the thought process has to be applied to converting the waste to manure status as well, so that the earth's energy is retained and can be used to re-plough the saved energy in the energy chain of the nature. That is why propagating the idea to convert the waste to manure, or such like ended products of waste treatment should be given priority.

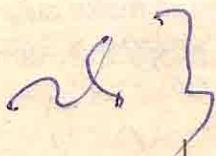
Your views?

- LKV

Creation of Web Site

Society's web-site www.medwasteind.org has been uploaded to server for the world to see! Members are requested to kindly visit the site and send their views to the Webmaster.

Book-Post



If undelivered please return to :

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Pin

