

## **Knowledge and practice on biomedical waste management among health care providers**

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### **ABSTRACT:**

Proper handling and disposal of bio-medical waste is very essential. Unfortunately, laxity and lack of adequate knowledge and practice on bio-medical waste disposal leads to staid health and environment apprehension.

**Aim:** To assess the knowledge and practice of bio-medical waste management among the health care providers working in Chettinad Hospital and Research Institute, Kelambakam, Kanchipuram (D.T), with the view to prepare informational booklet. **Methods:** A quantitative descriptive survey design was adopted for this study. The study subjects were health care providers posted in general wards in Chettinad hospital and Research Institute, at Kelambakkam, Kanchipuram district. 120 health care providers were selected by using non probability convenience sampling technique. Semi structured questionnaire was used to assess the knowledge of health care providers. **Results:** The majority of subjects 79 (65%) had average knowledge and 29 (24%) had good knowledge. Majority of subjects 63 (53%) had average practice and 42 (35%) had good practice. There is no significant association found for any of the selected socio-demographic variables as stated in the objective. **Conclusion:** Findings from this study revealed the lack of knowledge and awareness of bio-medical waste management even among health workers. This has led to the poor practice of biomedical waste handling and management, hence exposing themselves and the public in general to health and environment hazards.

**Key words:** Bio-medical waste, Waste management, Knowledge, Practice, Health care providers.