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Newer technologies in bio-medical waste management

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To dispose bio-medical waste in a proper and safe manner with newer technologies has become a challenge in recent times. The phenomenal increase in the quantity of medical wastes generated in the hospitals is attributed to the growing use of disposables, as precautions against exposure to infectious diseases and in general, to the increase in medical and public health facilities. This waste is often mixed with municipal solid waste dumped in landfills, where it can contribute to environmental pollution. There are four primary ways to manage hospital waste: Land-filling, source reduction, recycling and incineration. Medical waste has been classified into two categories: (i) general waste, which is not potentially dangerous and does not require special handling and disposal and (ii) hazardous waste, which requires special handling, treatment and disposal, usually according to specific regulations and guidelines. The latter may pose potential health, safety or environmental hazards. There are three categories of hazardous waste-chemical waste, infectious waste and radioactive waste. Newer technologies have emerged to deal with medical waste in its disposal which has been highlighted upon in the poster.

Biography

Meera Choudhary did her Graduation (BDS) from Government Dental College, Patna in 1984. After her graduation, she joined BIDS, Patna for a short period. In 1988, she cleared SSC and joined Dental Wing, Maulana Azad Dental College, New Delhi which has come up as an Institute known as Maulana Azad Institute of Dental Sciences (MAIDS). She has been posted in various departments of Dentistry. At present, she is Medical Officer In-charge of Biomedical Waste Management, MAIDS, New Delhi. She has done CHCWM from IGNOU and it is the only course related to biomedical waste management in Southeast Asia.

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