

**ASSESSMENT OF BEST ENVIRONMENTAL
PRACTICES AT SELECTED CENTRAL
HOSPITALS OF YANGON REGION**

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ABSTRACT

The health sector plays a pivotal role in mitigating the environmental footprint of climate change. The implementation of environmental friendly practices in healthcare sector goes hand in hand with the improvement of safety, quality, cost savings and improvement of staff and patient's health protection. The cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted aiming to assess the best environmental practices at selected central hospitals of Yangon Region. In charge of seven divisions of each hospital were interviewed with focusing on energy efficiency, water conservation, and waste management questionnaires. All studied hospitals were within the third quartile of environmental practices assessment. It meant that they were in progress condition of three performance indicators stepped for healthy environment. New Yangon General Hospital was at the top of total scoring of the assessment. The second best hospital was Yangon Eye Specialist Hospital and the other three were seemed to be weakened in environmental practices. The studied hospitals needed an implementation of on-site renewable energy supply and planning of energy saving practices. The hospital itself should plan for renovating: more eco-efficient technologies and environmentally preferred purchasing. The studied hospitals should conserve water resources by closely monitoring water use, installing water-efficient fixtures. Almost all hospitals had weakness in every process of waste management. All hospitals should have standard treatment system for hazardous wastewater before disposal. Non-establishment of treatment system was the worst in observed questions and it would impact the community health as well as environmental health. The hospitals should provide more information, training, and awareness-raising program to the hospital staff on mitigation measure of environmental impact of healthcare practices. The medical superintendent, stakeholders, and public authorities should collaborate to ameliorate eco-friendly performance in Myanmar.