

## ABSTRACT

A cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted with the objective of assessing the current situation of hospital waste management (HWM) in ten units of Central Women's Hospital, 2018. Assessment was done with observation checklists and key informant interviews (KII) were also carried out with seven participants who are responsible for HWM. In all units, the major type of hospital waste was general waste. Chemical waste, pharmaceutical waste, radioactive waste and pathological waste were (10%) each. For color coding system, all wards were using correct color for general waste, sharps waste and infectious waste collection. More than three fourth of the wards which generated sharps waste collected with sharp box and the rest (12.5%) of the wards used plastic bottles. Radioactive waste generated from NICU ward was collected with plastic bottle and then drained into the basin and existing drainage system and then reached to treatment plant. Therefore the separated pipeline from NICU to treatment plant should be established to avoid environmental contamination during drainage. Hospital waste was transported with closed plastic bin with wheel (100%) twice in a day in the hospital. Final disposal method was by municipality (100%). Supervision and training were also needed for HWM especially for new health care providers. Regarding the quantification of waste, ten units produced a total of 881.75 kg/day (0.9kg/bed/day) of general waste and 90.53 kg/day(0.09kg/bed/day) of hazardous waste i.e., general waste was 90% and 10% was hazardous waste. Gloves were insufficient facilities supplies supported for HWM in some wards. During KII, most respondents had received training on the HWM. They accepted that hospital waste is important for healthcare personals and public. Based on the findings, there should be adequate human resources and facilities support regarding the HWM process. Proper health education and continuing training programs should be conducted periodically for new health care providers for proper HWM.