

## HOSPITAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICE ALERTNESS AMONG HEALTH PRACTITIONERS IN SECONDARY AND TERTIARY CARE FACILITIES IN UYO METROPOLIS, AKWA IBOM STATE

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### ABSTRACT

This study evaluated the extent of curiosity to safe hospital waste management practice among principal managers of patients in care facility which are not directly saddled, primarily with managing medical waste generated in the process of care giving due to divisions in lines of duties. The study focused on analyzing the demographic characteristics of the medical practitioners, assessed the perception of the medical practitioners towards hospital waste management and assessed the pattern of alertness of medical practitioners on waste management practices in the care facilities. Both secondary and tertiary health facilities that serve the most urbanized regions of Akwa Ibom State surveyed the responses of the medical practitioners within the two facilities which made up the population of study. Descriptive statistical techniques were adopted to analyze the responses of the medical practitioners. Findings indicates the presence of vibrant and active individuals alongside well experienced practitioners, who seem to lack knowledge or in some situations, ignore technical issues surrounding waste management and disposal procedures within the facilities of their practice. They tend not to consider waste management as part of their care activities, neither are they concerned about steps involved and implemented in proper waste management procedures. There is utmost need to alongside, medical training, include environmental health education in various curricula as applicable in colleges and schools of medicine. Practitioners need to understand the health implications of improper waste management as well as standard waste management procedures that should be adopted to effectively support the monitoring of best practices within care facilities.

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