

ABSTRACT

As in many other developing countries, the generation of clinical waste in Malaysia has increased significantly over the last few decades. Even though the serious impact of the clinical waste on human beings and the environment is significant, only minor attention is directed to its proper handling and legal aspects. This study seeks to examine the awareness of medical waste management of clinical waste in private and government hospitals in northern region. A survey is done through questionnaire to estimate the level of knowledge and safety awareness. The 100 respondents sample is taken from hospital employees who involve in handling the clinical waste management. The analysis is done using statistical package for social sciences (SPSS). The analysis shows there are lack of safety awareness and knowledge among private and government hospital. Therefore, significant voids were presented that need to be addressed in future including efficient segregation, better handling and transfer means, as well as the need for training and awareness programs for the personnel. This study also helped in establishing database, information and statistics on the level of awareness and safety awareness towards clinical waste. It also highlighted the level of standard medical waste management in private and government hospital. Also, it has provided suggestions for policy makers and further information to facilitate policy development and improve clinical waste management. The management of clinical waste has been of major concern due to its potential high risks to human health and the environment. The current practices for the handling of wastes generated at the hospitals needs to be changed and improved. Other than that, the research and development activity (R&D) should be carried out continuously to combat the problem that might not occur before but tend to be hazard such as infectious control.