

MEDICAL AND SHARP WASTE MANAGEMENT

1. PURPOSE

To provide a process governing the management of infectious and non-infectious medical waste including monitoring and control methods for safe handling, storage, labeling, segregation, reporting, transportation, safe disposal and treatment processing in accordance with the health and safety guidelines, laws and regulations.

2. APPLICABILITY

To all employees, patients and visitors at all health care facilities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

3. RELATED REFERENCES

- 3.1. OSHA Technical Manual - Section VI: Chapter 2
- 3.2. Saudi Central Board for Accreditation of Healthcare Institutions (CBAHI) National Hospital Standards, 3rd Edition (2015) - LD.3.2, MM.13, FMS.1, FMS. 1.1.3, FMS.4.3, FMS.14, FMS.15, HR.13.4.7 and IPC.26.
- 3.3. Joint Commission International Accreditation Standards for Hospitals, 6th Edition (2017) - FMS.5 ME 1-5, FMS 5.1 ME 1-4, PCI.7.2 ME 1 & 2 and PCI 7.3 ME 2 &3.4
- 3.4. WHO, Safe management of wastes from health-care activities, 2nd edition.2014.
- 3.5. Recommendations of CDC and the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC), Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Health-Care Facilities. 2003.
- 3.6. The unified law for managing the healthcare waste in the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (CCASG) and Implementing regulations. 2006.

4. DEFINITIONS

- 4.1. **Competent Authority** refers to the environmental body, organization or any other party named by the State such as Presidency of Meteorology and Environment (PME) and King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology (for Radiation Safety).
- 4.2. **Container** refers to a receptacle used to retain liquids, solids or gaseous substances (e.g. bottles, pipelines, bags, barrels, boxes, cans, cylinders, drums, cartons, vessels, vats, and stationary or mobile storage tanks).
- 4.3. **Generator**, for the purpose of this document, refers to any legal individual or body (such as healthcare facilities and its departments), who generates medical waste.
- 4.4. **Cytotoxic** Agents refer to substances used in the treatment of malignant and other diseases which are known to be potentially carcinogenic, genotoxic, mutagenic, teratogenic or in any way hazardous or lethal to cell DNA growth and synthesis. It is commonly used in the treatment of cancer in the form of chemotherapy.
- 4.5. **Healthcare Waste (Medical Waste)** refers to any waste generated by facilities that provide various healthcare services (hospitals, home healthcare services, laboratories, pharmacies, vaccine manufacturers, veterinary and research centers).

These are divided into hazardous and non-hazardous medical waste.