

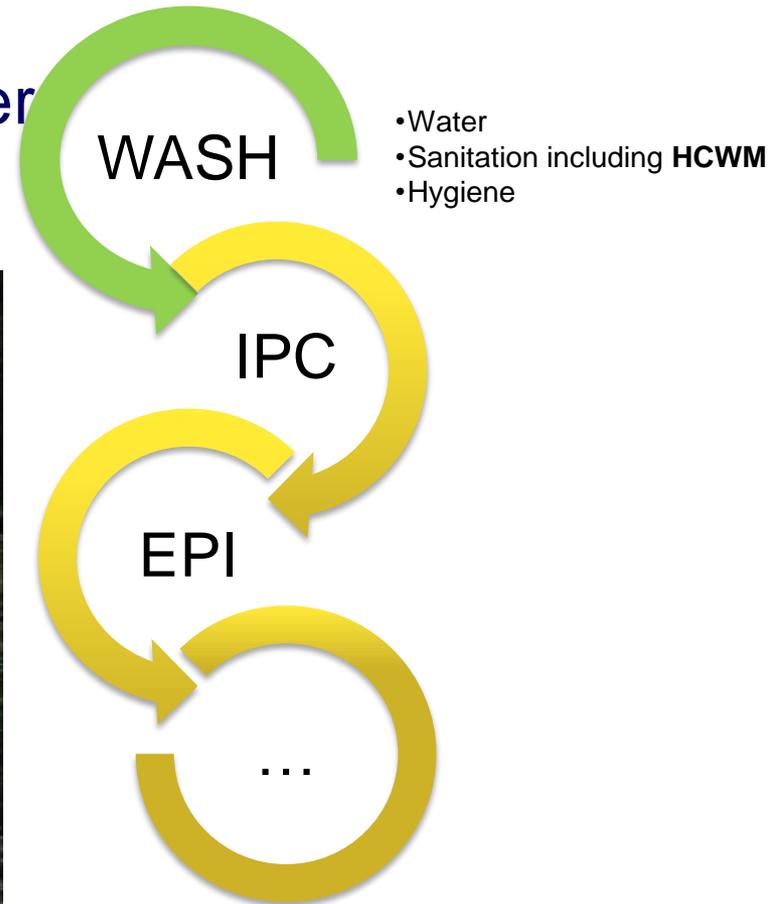
WHO global activities on health care waste management

International Healthcare Waste Conference in London
- April 2016 -

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Healthcare Waste Management

- HCWM is an intra- and intersectoral area



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) at WHO

- A target of universal basic coverage of WASH in health care facilities by 2030 is included in the post-2015 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG3, SDG6):



- Urgent action is needed to improve Water, Sanitation and Health (WASH) services and practices in health care facilities

Knowledge Portals

WASH IN HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Global action to provide universal access by 2030

Home Advocacy & Policy Monitoring Evidence & Research Standards & Facilities Case studies Resources

Action Plan Partners About us News Events



Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in health care facilities are fundamental for the provision of quality, people-centred care. Such services also reduce health care-related infections, increase trust and uptake of services, increase efficiency and decrease cost of service delivery and improve staff morale. All major initiatives to improve global health depend on basic WASH services in health care facilities.

In low- and middle-income countries, WASH services in many health care facilities are absent. Data from 54 countries, representing 56,101 facilities show that 38% of health care facilities do not have an improved water source, 19% do not have improved sanitation and 35% do not have water and soap for handwashing. This lack of services compromises the ability to provide safe and quality care and places both those providing and those seeking care at considerable and preventable risk.

Urgent action is needed to improve WASH services and practices in health care facilities. WHO, UNICEF and partners committed at a global meeting in March 2015 to address the situation.

The vision is to provide access to WASH services in all facilities, in all settings by 2030, with a special attention to the needs of women, girls and children.

News & events

11-16 October
ICM Africa Regional Conference (Lusaka, 17-18 October)
Africa

20-26 2014
Info-American
Engineering/C

10-16 2014
WHO West

Sign up for

34.00.2015
Training modules in health-care waste management

24.07.2013
New edition of the «Blue Book»

25.11.2011
The different types of HCW and their health impact

Documents

2013
Safe Management of Wastes from Health-Care Activities (second version)

2012
Compendium of Technologies for the Treatment/Destruction of Healthcare Waste

2011
Guidance for healthcare waste management in LICs

2011
Website structure and navigation

Basics Country level HC facilities Resources

Guidance for healthcare waste management in LICs



Healthcare waste (HCW) is a by-product of healthcare that includes sharps, non-sharps, blood, body parts, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, medical devices and radioactive materials.

Poor management of HCW exposes healthcare workers, waste handlers and the community to infections, toxic effects and injuries.

WHO Programme activities include developing technical guidance materials for assessing the quantities and types of waste produced in different facilities, creating national action plans, developing national healthcare waste management (HCWM) guidelines and building capacity at national level to enhance the way HCW is dealt with in low-income countries (LICs).

Website structure and navigation

The website is split in three main sections:

- **basics** provides an overview about HCW and its proper management;
- **country level** and **HC facilities** where information relevant to the five main thematic (management, training, regulatory and financial issues as well as technologies) can be found;
- **resources** has five databases that provide relevant documents, links, technologies, country information and case studies.

To be kept informed of the latest updates, subscribe to our RSS feeds.

If you have any remarks, suggestions or have some piece of information you believe should be posted on this website, please contact: hcwaste@who.int

Documents

WHO core principles for achieving safe and sustainable management of health-care waste
[download PDF](#)

Safe health-care waste management

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- <http://www.washinhcf.org/>
- <http://www.healthcare-waste.org/>

Global Action Plan on WASH

- WHO, UNICEF and partners committed at a global meeting in March 2015 to address urgent need to improve WASH services.
- Result: Global Action Plan on WASH which includes HCWM elements
- Vision: By 2030, to ensure that every health care facility, in every setting, has safely managed, reliable water, sanitation and hygiene facilities and practices to meet staff and patient needs in order to provide quality, safe people-centred care.



Global Action Plan: Vision, Task Teams and Activities

ADVOCACY AND POLICY		MONITORING	EVIDENCE AND RESEARCH	STANDARDS AND FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS
Change Objective 1	Change Objective 2	Change Objective 3	Change Objective 4	Change Objective 5
<p>Aim: To advocate for global and national action to improve WASH in health care facilities and support leaders dedicated to this effort.</p> <p><i>Activities</i> Document national case studies including processes and change mechanisms for improving WASH in health care facilities.</p>		<p>Aim: To develop, test and revise core and expanded indicators to track WASH in health care facilities.</p> <p><i>Activities</i> Core and expanded indicators incorporated into all relevant WASH and health monitoring and accountability mechanisms.</p>	<p>Aim: To draw on and extend the evidence base to support increased investments, quality improvements and advocacy efforts.</p> <p><i>Activities</i> Develop priority operational research agenda and seek opportunities to address the evidence gaps.</p>	<p>Aim: To develop a suite of field-tested tools, training and reference materials for a variety of facilities and settings.</p> <p><i>Activities</i> Support regular training and competency assessments for all health facility staff including cleaners and health care workers.</p>



HCWM Activities of WHO

- Providing sharp boxes for immunization (standard package)
- Conducting of HCWM assessments and monitoring (national level)
- Technical Support on the development of national Policies, Strategies and Regulations (GAVI supported: Africa, Eastern Mediterranean, the Americas, South East Asia, Western Pacific, Europe, and Central Asia)
- Conducting Case Studies and pilot projects (e.g. Kyrgyzstan, Albania, Georgia, Ukraine)



Pilot Project at the National Hospital in Bishkek / Kyrgyzstan (MoH / WHO / IEC)



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WHO HCWM Docs: Developed Policies, Strategies, Plans

- Policies
 - Policy Paper: Safe Healthcare Waste Management
 - Policy Paper: Mercury in Health Care
 - AIDE-MEMOIRE for a national strategy for health-care waste management
- General strategic documents;
 - WHO core principles for achieving safe and sustainable management of health care waste
 - Better health care waste management: An integral component of health investment
- Documents aiming the national level
 - National Steering Committees and National Working Groups for Health-Care Waste Management Policy Development and Planning
 - Health care waste management: Guidance for the development and implementation of a National Action Plan
 - Preparation of national health-care waste management plans in Sub-Saharan countries: a guidance manual
- Management of solid health-care waste at primary health-care centres: A decision-making guide

WHO HCWM Docs: Guidance

- General guidance
 - Safe Management of Wastes from Health-Care Activities (second version)
 - Health through safe health care: safe water, basic sanitation and waste management in healthcare settings
- Fact Sheets and Poster
 - Health-care waste management - Fact sheet n° 281
 - Waste from health-care activities - Fact sheet n° 253
 - Ebola Virus disease (EVD) – Key questions and answers concerning health care waste
 - Management of waste from injection activities - Poster
- Specific Guidance
 - Review of health impacts from microbiological hazards in health-care wastes
 - Managing Health Care Waste Disposal
 - Guidelines for Safe Disposal of Unwanted Pharmaceuticals in and after Emergencies
 - Management of wastes from immunisation campaign activities. Practical guidelines for planners and managers
 - Management of waste from injection activities at district level: guidelines for district health managers
 - Mercury in health care
 - Technical Guideline: Replacement of mercury thermometers and sphygmomanometers in health care



WHO HCWM Docs: Tools

- HCWM - Rapid Assessment Tool (RAT). Second edition.
- HCWM - Costing Analysis Tool (CAT / ECAT)
- Training modules in health care waste management (25 modules)
(http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/healthcare_waste/training_modules_waste_management/en/)

Collaboration with Partner Organisations: ISWA

- Collaboration Plan for 2015 – 2017
 - mutually agreed three year plan for collaboration, the results of which are reviewed by the WHO Executive Board once every three years
- Objective: to promote the safe management of healthcare waste worldwide and to reduce the impact of waste related activities on public health
- Activities:
 - Sharing of information
 - Participating in the task teams on the WASH Global Action Plan to advocate hcwm
 - Monitoring
 - Development of technical documents

Collaboration with UNDP: GEF project

- Partner: UNDP (Istanbul Regional Hub) / WHO / HCWH
- Target Countries:
 - Ghana, Madagascar, Tanzania, Zambia
- Components
 - Capacity building and awareness on HCWM and mercury phasing out
 - Improving of policy and regulatory frameworks, coordination, budgeting and for HCWM and mercury
 - Introduction of BEP and BAT approaches for HCWM and support the phase-out of mercury at facility level
- WHO input:
 - Strengthening policy
 - Technical capacity building

Thank You



For more information and to get involved contact:

washinhcf@who.int

WASH in health care facilities knowledge portal:

www.washinhcf.org

Health care Waste Management on WHO portal:

www.healthcare-waste.org



World Health
Organization