

Healthcare Waste Management Practices in Nigeria: A Review

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In most low-income economies, healthcare waste (HCW) management, a major component of solid waste presents a serious concern. HCW being categorized as an hazardous or infectious solid wastes are unwanted products of healthcare activities that are generated during diagnosis or treatment of patients, immunization or vaccination of human beings or animals mostly during production or biological testing (Idowu et al., 2013; Olukanni et al., 2014; Chukwunonye, 2015; Awodele et al., 2016; Afolabi et al., 2018; Akpan & Olukanni, 2020). Hierarchical structure and complexity characterize HCW and healthcare facilities. The categories of HCW range from infectious, pathogenic, and sharp to genotoxic, chemical, and radioactive waste, each with a complement of various health risks. They include basically hazard prone materials such as blades, needles, and syringes, known as sharps, then non-sharps including ...