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SHAFQAT JAWAID SHEIKH: KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICE OF THE SANITARY WORKERS TOWARDS MANAGEMENT OF HOSPITAL WASTE IN ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN. THESIS ADVISORS: PROF. PANTYP RAMASOOTA Dr.P.H, ASST. PROF. BOONYONG KEIWKARNKA Dr. P.H. Ms. BANG-ON THEPHTIEN M.Sc. 91 P. ISBN: 974-662-159-9

A cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted on sanitary workers knowledge, attitude and practice towards hospital waste management, in 4 public hospital and one private hospitals of Islamabad, Pakistan. Two hundred and fifty nine sanitary workers were interviewed by using structured questionnaire.

The results found that the majority of the sanitary workers were male and were mostly young. Almost half of the sanitary workers were illiterate and one fourth of them had attended only primary school. Most of the sanitary workers had monthly family income less than 3000 Rupees. Subjects had large families; the smallest family reported had six members. Two thirds of the subjects had experience as sanitary worker of 5-15 years. The knowledge towards hospital waste management among the sanitary workers was mainly in poor level, while two thirds had high attitude and more than half had good practice. The policy and facility for the hospital waste management were perceived to exist but in reality the facilities were not properly and under-utilized, although the sanitary workers stated that they were all under supervision. Only one tenth of the sanitary workers had received training. It is therefore, recommended that pre-service as well as in service training for the hospital sanitary workers should be provided. The close and regular supervision for effective use of appropriate facilities should also be strengthened.