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# Pharmacy Law & Ethics
# Chapter 17 : Biomedical Waste management rules 2016


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# Chapter 17
# Biomedical Waste management rules 2016

- → Biomedical waste refers to any waste generated during the diagnosis, treatment, or immunization of humans or animals or research activities pertaining thereto or in the production or testing of biological products. Proper management of biomedical waste is crucial to protect the environment and prevent the spread of infections.
- → The Biomedical Waste Management Rules 2016 are a set of regulations that provide guidance on the safe handling, segregation, transportation, and disposal of biomedical waste. These rules are applicable to all persons who generate, collect, store, transport, treat, dispose of or handle biomedical waste in any form.

## Basic Aspects of Biomedical Waste Management Rules 2016

- ➢ **Segregation :** Biomedical waste should be segregated at the point of generation into different color-coded containers as per the type of waste. For example, yellow for anatomical waste, red for infectious waste, blue for glassware, and white for waste sharps.
- ➢ **Storage :** Biomedical waste should be stored in leak-proof and puncture-resistant containers that are properly labeled and securely fastened. The containers should be kept in a separate area designated for biomedical waste storage.
- ➢ **Transportation :** Biomedical waste should be transported in closed vehicles with appropriate markings indicating the type of waste being transported.
- ➢ **Treatment and Disposal :** Biomedical waste should be treated and disposed of in an environmentally sound manner as per the guidelines provided in the rules. The treatment and disposal methods may include autoclaving, incineration, microwave treatment, chemical disinfection, or any other method approved by the regulatory authority.

## Aspects Related to Pharma Manufacture to Disposal of Pharma / Medical Waste

- → Pharmaceutical manufacturing facilities generate a significant amount of biomedical waste. The waste generated may include expired or unused drugs, contaminated packaging, and production-related waste
  - ◈ **Segregation :** Pharmaceutical waste should be segregated from other types of biomedical waste and stored separately in dedicated containers.
  - ◈ **Disposal :** Pharmaceutical waste should be disposed of by incineration or through authorized recyclers or collectors. The waste should not be disposed of in open landfills or dumped in water bodies.
  - ◈ **Reverse Logistics :** The pharmaceutical industry must establish a system for the collection and disposal of unused and expired medicines. The system must ensure the safe and secure transport of the waste to the designated disposal facility.

# Pharmacies

- Pharmacies generate a significant amount of pharmaceutical waste in the form of expired or unused medicines, packaging material, and syringes.
    - **Segregation :** Pharmaceutical waste should be segregated from other types of waste and stored separately in designated containers.
    - **Disposal :** Pharmaceutical waste should be disposed of by incineration or through authorized recyclers or collectors. The waste should not be disposed of in open landfills or dumped in water bodies.

# Hospitals

- Hospitals generate a large volume of biomedical waste in the form of sharps, infectious waste, and anatomical waste.
    - **Segregation :** Biomedical waste should be segregated at the point of generation into different color-coded containers as per the type of waste.
    - **Storage :** Biomedical waste should be stored in designated areas that are secure, inaccessible to unauthorized persons, and equipped with appropriate safety measures.
    - **Transportation :** Biomedical waste should be transported in closed vehicles with appropriate markings indicating the type of waste being transported.
    - **Treatment and Disposal :** Biomedical waste should be treated and disposed of in an environmentally sound manner as per the guidelines provided in the rules.
    - **Home Care :** Patients who generate biomedical waste at home, such as used syringes or bandages, should be provided with clear instructions on how to store and dispose of the waste. The waste should be stored in puncture-resistant containers and disposed of through authorized collectors or recyclers