

Online Data Management System Helps Reduce Waste Bongani Regional Hospital

GGHH Agenda Goals

- Chemicals
- Waste
- Leadership

Hospital Goal on Waste

- To promote the use of web-based health care waste data management system as a driving tool for hospital waste minimization strategy.
- To advocate for better waste practices especially in the health sector.

Progress Achieved Waste Goal

- Financial benefits: For the past 10 months (since November 2016 till August 2017) USD \$110,237 (R 1.5 million) was allocated for Health Care Waste treatment cost, and the cost savings amounted to USD \$23,820 (R 323,251) as only USD \$86,716 (R 1,176,748.68) waste utilized for medical waste treatment cost
- Environmental benefit: The hospital was expected to generate 68,500 kilograms of medical waste after 10 months, but only generated 57,782.55 kilograms which equates to more 10,000 kilograms of medical waste being reduced.
- Other quantitative results

Progress Achieved Leadership Goal (Interconnected to Waste)

- Financial benefits: During the months of June and July there were problems with collection of Health Care General Waste stream at the hospital, now instead of procuring the service using a private contractor which would have cost USD 736.913 (R 10,000) – USD 1,105.37 (R 15,000) per collection, the hospital used its own trucks to transport the waste to the landfill site which is free of charge.
- Environmental benefits: Piling-up of Health Care General Waste which might contribute to possible breeding area for rodents was avoided.
- Other quantitative results

The Issue

Before the implementation of the GGHH goals the hospital waste experiencing problems in the following areas of concern:

1. Lack of proper segregation of HCRW generated in the wards which resulted in the hospital generating huge amounts of waste that exceeded the hospital's budget for medical waste treatment costs.
2. The use of fumigation was costly and not effective as it only lasted for few weeks, and also some patients and staff would react during fumigation service as a result of offensive chemicals being used for pest control.
3. Lack of collection of general waste by the municipality, as well as improper disposal of sharps waste (diabetic patients) from the community.

Sustainability Strategy Implemented

1. Implementation of an electronic tool that improves HCRW monitoring.
2. Trainings and addressing of community members regarding medical waste management practices as well as initiating cost effective methods for Health Care General waste disposal.



The Health care Waste officer illustrates the requirements for the implementation of the system depicted above.

Implementation process

The electronic tool for HCRW monitoring was developed by the Health Care Waste Officer using Microsoft Excel. Lastly the Health Care Waste Officer illustrated leadership by conducting trainings on HCW management not only to staff but also to community members as well.



Training were conducted by the health care waste officer to different categories of staff, i.e. students, nurses, cleaners including the community members.

Tracking Progress

There is progress in every agenda goal that was chosen for the hospital as far as initiatives are concern, but there's still a room for improvement there and there.

Challenges and lessons learned

The challenges faced during the implementation of the waste agenda goal was that the hospital encountered problems with the collection of general waste, and this led to the inception of leadership goal that correlated directly with the waste goal. The lessons learned were that initiatives that do not require financial assistance were easier to achieve as compared to those requiring financial backing.

Demographic information

Bongani Regional Hospital is a level 2 hospital offering essential health care service to the community of Lejweleputswa district (DC 18). The bed capacity of the hospital is 450 beds with personnel staff number of approximately 1000. The hospital uses a referral system to admit patients from 5 district hospitals namely Nala, Mohau, Thusanong, Katleho and Winburg all of which are located in the vicinity of Lejweleputswa district, with exception only made for emergency trauma services.

Links

Access to Bongani Regional Hospital and information on the services offered-

- www.fshealth.gov.za/portal/page/portal/fsdp/OUR_DEPARTMENT/Hospitals/Bongani%20Hospital/welcome

Free State Department of Health Provincial Health Care Waste Management Strategy-

- http://www.fshealth.gov.za/portal/page/portal/fsdp/intranet/resource_documents/health_programmes/Environmental%20Health

Submission date: 14/9/17