

To all Heads of Institutions

Guideline for management of COVID-19 infectious waste

Infectious waste generated from healthcare institutions treating COVID-19 cases shall be treated using only the following methods.

1. Incineration
2. Using a metaMizer

These two methods of treatment should be used in all healthcare institutions designated for treating COVID-19 cases.

1. Handover the infectious waste generated in Healthcare institutions in Western, Central and Southern Provinces to Sisili Hanaro Encare (Pvt) Ltd for incineration.
2. Use either incinerators or metaMizers to treat the clinical waste in all other provinces.

Please advise the staff to adhere to the following in managing infectious waste from COVID-19 cases /wards.

- Infectious waste generated from suspected and confirmed COVID-19 cases should be collected in yellow polythene bags of minimum 300 gauge and tied well. It should then be put in another yellow bag (double bagged) and tied and sealed with appropriate adhesive tape. Mark the waste bag with a red star for easy identification and prioritized disposal.
- Sharps should be placed in cardboard sharp boxes which are puncture proof and leak proof. Sharp boxes should be designed with a small inlet so that items can be dropped in but no item can be removed. It should be closed when $\frac{3}{4}$ full. Make sure that the sharp box has a handle.
- These bags and sharp boxes should be marked / labeled with a red star to identify easily as COVID-19 waste and should be transported separately in a trolley or cart which is easy to load, clean and disinfect and treated on priority basis on the same day.

- The staff transporting this waste needs to wear proper personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, masks, boots and an overall at all times.
- The staff at the treatment facility needs to wear proper personal protective equipment such as industrial gloves, masks, boots and overalls.
- Infectious waste handling staff need to be educated on how to protect them and should be provided with washing facilities with adequate soap and water.
- Arrangements need to be made to treat COVID-19 infectious waste within 24 hours.
- Waste management process needs to be supervised by a team nominated by the Head of the Institution