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SUWASIRIPAYA

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 சுகாதார அமைச்சு  
 Ministry of Health

All the relevant Heads of institutions,

Management of Cytotoxic Waste

As the health institutions consisting of cancer treatment facilities generate hazardous cytotoxic waste, it needs to be properly treated as per the Hazardous Waste Regulations as there is evidence to say that improper handling of such waste causes serious public health hazards.

The recommended methods of disposal of cytotoxic waste are thermal destruction (incineration), chemical inactivation, encapsulation, or solidification.

The option available at present in the country to treat cytotoxic waste is to incinerate them at the Holcim Cement Plant (Geocycle)- Puttlam, which has obtained the approval of the Central Environmental Authority for such kind of operation. At present Cancer - Institute Maharagama is disposing cytotoxic waste at this facility.

All Heads of the Institutions (in which the cytotoxic waste is generated) are kindly requested to liaise with Holcim Cement Plant (Geocycle) - Puttlam and arrange the treatment and disposal of cytotoxic waste following financial regulations.

Further, Heads of Institutions, should make necessary arrangements to store, cytotoxic waste in suitable tight containers in a secured place in the cancer units until disposal is done.

The pharmacist handling the drug store where cytotoxic drugs are available and the In Charge Nursing Officer of where these drugs are used should be made responsible for safe storing, / handling of cytotoxic waste.

A guideline on Transportation of Cytotoxic Waste prepared by Industrial Technology Institute (ITI), and contact details of Holcim (Lanka) limited are attached.

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Copy: Consultant Oncologist