

**FACTORS AFFECTING THE MANAGEMENT OF HEALTH CARE WASTES IN
HEALTH FACILITIES.**

(A CASE OF CENTRAL SUB-COUNTY , KIRINYAGA COUNTY)

BY

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ABSTRACT

This study investigated the factors affecting the management of healthcare waste in Central Sub-county of Kirinyaga County through a descriptive cross-sectional survey. The study particularly sought to find out the limiting factors in waste segregation practice in healthcare facilities. The study was conceived due to the fact that despite training health workers on healthcare waste management, the problem of healthcare waste still persists. Data was collected in the year 2010 using questionnaires and observation checklists from 180 health care workers in 28 health facilities randomly selected. The data was analyzed and presented in tables and figures. The study established that 21% of the respondents use improvised receptacles to store waste. The study further established that most(72%) of the respondents segregate waste at the point of generation but the majority(79%) of the facilities dispose of waste together. The study concludes that healthcare waste is not always collected in appropriate receptacles and that despite good segregation practice at source, the waste was again mixed during treatment and or disposal. The study recommends that Medical officers of health should scale up the use of colour-coding methods for different types of waste by improving on logistics and supplies. Additionally, the District Health Management Team should designate a waste management officer to take responsibility of healthcare waste management from the cradle to the grave.