

FAQs on Biomedical Waste Management in Public Healthcare Facilities

FAQ 1. Is Biomedical Waste authorisation mandatory for all facilities under NQAS?

Yes, District Hospitals, SDHs, CHCs, PHCs and AAM-SHCs must have valid authorisation from the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB).

FAQ 2. Can facilities dispose of biomedical waste on their premises?

No, open burning or improper disposal is not allowed; disposal must follow BMW 2016 rules and subsequent amendments through the linked common biomedical waste treatment facility.

FAQ 3. What is the maximum time for storing Biomedical Waste before disposal?

Biomedical waste should not be stored for more than 48 hours before final disposal.

FAQ 4. Is deep burial mandatory at the AAM-SHC level?

Yes, as per BMW 2016 rules, deep burial is required for the AAM-SHC for waste collection and disposal.

FAQ 5. Can AAM-SHC dispose of BMW waste independently without linkage or authorisation?

No, disposal must be either through authorised deep burial (with approval) or through linkage with an authorised PHC.

FAQ 6. If authorisation is not available at AAM-SHC, what documentation is required from AAM-SHC to ensure that BMW disposal is managed by the mother PHC?

A joint declaration/supporting document, signed by the Medical Officer of the PHC and the Community Health Officer of AAM-SHC, must be submitted at the time of the NQAS assessment.

FAQ 7. How is Biomedical Waste managed when AAM-SHC is linked to a PHC?

The mother PHC collects the waste within 48 hours and ensures disposal through an authorised CBWTF.

FAQ 8. Does the mother PHC require authorisation for biomedical waste disposal?

Yes, the mother PHC must have a valid SPCB authorisation and be linked to a CBWTF.

FAQ 9. What happens if proper disposal mechanisms are not followed?

Non-compliance may also lead to poor assessment scores for the relevant standards. BMW management and disposal are statutory requirements; violations may attract penalties.