

Abstract

This research was mixed between quantitative and qualitative methods approach with three main objectives: 1) to study in current situation, problem and obstacle of an infectious waste management of primary care unit (PCU) in Lumlukka District, Pathumthani Province; 2) to evaluate current situation of infectious waste management of studied area by comparing with the ministerial regulations on Infectious Waste Management issued in 2545 B.E. Thailand, and the other regulations issued by World Health Organization (WHO); and 3) to make suggestions for appropriate infectious waste management of the studied area. The studied population was 71 persons which classified to administrative officials, infectious waste generators, and infectious waste collectors. The data was collected by survey, interview, and observation and then was statistically analyzed.

The infectious waste generated from all PCUs of Lumlukka district was average at 4,972 gram per day. The major constituents of infectious waste was medical service types such as cotton balls, gauzes and hosepipe tubes (64 percent), followed by support down, vaccine, and packing of medical (27 percent), and the sharp equipments used in treatment activities such as needles, blades, and syringes (9 percent). Evaluation results of infectious waste management in studied area showed 14.27 percent which met standard requirements.

Appropriate infectious waste management suggested from this research was to improve the management by preliminary rectifying problems. The recommendations consisted of setting the infectious waste management committee which integrated from all PCUs, setting distinct policy which appropriate and practical for Lumlukka district, training to provide knowledge of infectious waste management for relative officers, promoting Lumlukka Hospital to be the center of infectious waste disposal, as well as setting an evaluation committee to assess and monitor the PCUs's infectious waste management continuously.