Department of Resource Recycling, Korea Environment Corporation

Medical Waste Management in Korea's COVID-19 Response



June 5, 2020 Jun-ho Kim, RFID Operations Team



RFID Operations Team,
Department of Resource Recycling
Korea Environment Corporation

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- Korea Environment Corporation's Role and Efforts in the COVID-19 Response
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1. Introduction to K-eco



For the affluent world where mankind live together with the nature and the sustainable future where today meets tomorrow, K-eco will open the green future by performing its role faithfully as the global environmental keeper under the Korean government.

MISSION

Contribution to the development of eco-friendly nation by improving environment and promoting resource circulation

VISION

The coexistence of nature and human; Future with our environmental expertise

Legal basis	The K-eco Act (Law No. 11446)
Type of institution	A consigned enforcement-
	typed quasi-government agency
Umbrella body	Ministry of Environment
Organization	5 Headquarters,
	6 Regional Headquarters
Number of persons	About 3,058 staff members / environments
runiber of persons	experts







Classification and Management of Medical Wastes

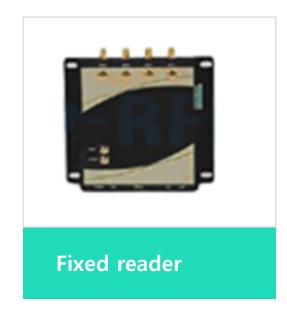
Waste Type		Storage Facility	Container Type and Color Scheme	Storage Period
Medical	Waste for Quarantine	Refrigerated storage/transportation	Plastic container (red)	Discharge: 7 days Transportation and incineration: 2 days each
	Tissues	Refrigerated storage/transportation	Plastic container (yellow)	Discharge: 15 days (60 days for teeth) Transportation: 5 days, processing: 2 days
Hazardous Medical Waste	Placentas for Recycling	Refrigerated storage/transportation	Plastic container (green)	Discharge: 15 days Recycling: 5 to 7 days
	Injurious	Room temperature storage, refrigerated transportation	Plastic container (yellow)	Discharge: 30 days Transportation and incineration: 5 days each
	Pathological	Room temperature storage, refrigerated transportation	Liquid: Plastic Solid: Corrugated cardboard (yellow)	Discharge: 15 days Transportation and incineration: 5 days each
	Biochemical	Room temperature storage, refrigerated transportation	Liquid: Plastic Solid: Corrugated cardboard (yellow)	Discharge: 15 days Transportation and incineration: 5 days each
	Blood-contaminated Room temperature storage, refrigerated transportation		Liquid: Plastic Solid: Corrugated cardboard (yellow)	Discharge: 15 days Transportation and incineration: 5 days each
Gener	al Medical Waste	Room temperature storage, refrigerated transportation	Liquid: Plastic Solid: Corrugated cardboard (yellow)	Discharge: 15 days (30 days if refrigerated) Transportation and incineration: 5 days each

^{*} Storage periods specified for transporters apply only to storage in authorized temporary storage facilities prior to transshipment



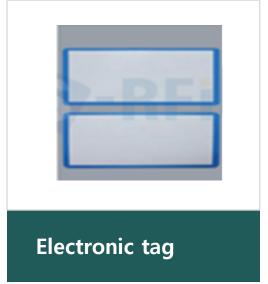
Radio-frequency Identification (RFID)

- A technology which uses radio frequencies to read data from a distance. This is a next-generation information communications technology which stores different types of data in an IC chip built into an RFID tag for real-time, wireless transfer.
- I The components involved are RFID tags, RFID readers (fixed or portable), and tag issuers











Overview of the RFID-based Medical Waste Management System Workflow Transfer of recognized data Ministry of Environment Collection/transportation Processing Discharge (Korea Environment Corporation) Handover from discharger Handover to transporter/processor Waste generation/intake into storage facility Transported after a tag is attached to each weighed container Transporter is authenticated using an intake reader at Authentication of waste release Fixed processing facility using a transporter authentication card reader used RFID management system Real-time tabulation of waste data Storage and release Extraction and management of errors Waste received is temporarily stored in a storage facility Statistical analysis Storage period: Up to 5 days Stored medical waste containers are recorded using a reader Correction of errors, etc. antenna before being loaded onto a transportation vehicle Portable reader used Incineration Tag recognition, container weighing, and data transfer are performed

Storage facility intake/release at discharge stage; transportation after handover from discharger

Tag on each container is read before feeding into

incinerator



using a portable reader in cases where the volumes of waste handled

are small, or where a fixed reader is not used by the discharger

Discharge, Transportation, and Processing of Medical Waste











Input of discharge history Temporary storage in discharger's storage facility



Discharge from hospital rooms

Incineration



- 2. Management of intake history at processing facility
- 3. Management of incineration history



Intake at processing facility





Collection/transportation



02. Overview of Special Management of COVID-19 Medical Waste

- Overview of the COVID-19 Pandemic
 - Confirmed case detected in airport quarantine by Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Jan. 20)
 - Contagious disease alert level elevated to "caution"
 - * Thirty-five-year-old Chinese female transported to a government-designated medical facility for isolation treatment
 - ♦ Detection of second confirmed case (Jan. 24)
 - Korean male entering Korea from China identified in quarantine inspection at Gimpo Airport on Jan. 22
 - * Twenty-five individuals with symptoms tested but confirmed **negative**





- ♦ Detection of fourth confirmed case (Jan. 27)
 - Contagious disease alert level elevated to "warning"
 - * Central Disaster Management Headquarters for COVID-19 Response activated
- 288 medical facilities designated for screening clinic operation; Guideline for Citizen Response issued to the public (Jan. 28)
- ♦ Contagious disease alert level elevated to "serious" (Feb. 23)
- Response to community transmission in and around the Gyeongsangbuk-do region (Daegu)

 * The Central Disaster and Safety Countermeasures Headquarters, headed by the Prime Minister, was formed to enable a pan-governmental response
 - Confirmed cases: 556, tested: 22,077



02. Overview of Special Management of COVID-19 Medical Waste



Formation of Policy on the Special Management of Medical Waste by the Ministry of Environment (executed Jan. 30, 2020)

Goal: To fundamentally prevent secondary infection in the process of discharge, transportation, and processing of medical waste, and ensure the safe processing of medical waste

Governmentdesignated hospitals, etc.

- ☼ Discharge: Sterilized before/after placement in a special container, refrigerated storage, processed by a service provider on the same day (minimization of in-hospital storage)
- ♦ Incineration: Incinerated on the day of intake

Isolation facilities, etc.

- ♦ Discharge: Placed outside door in a special container (sterilized before placement in container)
- ♦ Incineration: Incinerated on the day of intake

Self-isolation at home

- ♦ No symptoms: Refrain from discharge where possible; discharge medical waste in special bags; discharge household waste seal-packaged in standard garbage bags (processed as household waste)
- ♦ Symptoms present: Discharge waste double-seal-packaged for collection in a special container by a collection service provider (same-day transportation and incineration of medical waste)
- ♦ Confirmed patients: Waste placed in a special container and stored until patient is transported to a hospital
 - * Self-isolation due to a shortage of hospital facilities



02. Overview of Special Management of COVID-19 Medical Waste



Medical Waste Management and Processing Manual for Specially Managed Facilities

불임3

생활치료센터 폐기물 관리·처리 매뉴얼

[폐기물 처리에 필요한 물품]

□ 페기물 처리에 필요한 물품은 ①페기물 소독제 ②의료페기물 <u>전용봉투</u> (주황색 봉투) ③의료페기물 <u>전용용기(플라스틱 재절) ④의료페기물 전용용기</u> (골판지류) 입니다.

[생활치료센터 격리자 발생 폐기물 배출방법] - 격리의료폐기물

- □ 격리실에서 발생되는 모든 쓰레기는 분리배출 필요 없이 제공되는 전용봉투(주황색 봉투)에 담기 전 전용봉투 내부를 1차 소독, 폐기물을 담은 후 2차 소독하여 반드시 내용물이 보이지 않게 묶어주시고,
- □ 제공되는 의료폐기물 전용용기(플라스틱 제절)에 전용봉투(주황색 봉투)를 넣고, 전용용기(플라스틱 재절)의 뚜껑을 닫기 전 소독 후, 뚜껑을 닫아 밀폐하여 주시기 바랍니다.
- □ 밀폐된 의료폐기물 <u>전용용기(플라스틱 제절)은</u> 격리실 문 앞에 배출하기 전 외부 전체를 1회 더 소독하여 배출하여 주시기 바랍니다.
- □ 폐기물은 의료폐기물 <u>전용용기(플라스틱 제절)</u>의 뚜껑이 완전히 닫힌 후 배출되어야. 수건가 가능하면,
- □ 배출된 폐기물은 매일 수거자가 수거하여 '생활치료센터' 내 별도 (임스)보관장소에 보관하여야 합니다.



폐기물(도시락 및 <u>구호물품 방</u>스 등)은 <u>일반의료폐기물로</u> 처리하며, □ 분리배출 없이 의료폐기물 <u>전용봉투(주황새 봉투)에</u> 넣고 밀봉하기 전

소독을 진행해야 합니다.

□ 소독 후 내용물이 보이지 않도록 전용봉투(주황색 봉투)를 묶은 후, 의료 페기물 전용용기(골판지류)에 넣어 밀봉해야 합니다.

[생활치료센터 운영인력 등 발생 폐기물 처리방법] - 일반의료폐기물

□ 운영인력 사용공간 및 숙소 등 발생 폐기물, 확진자와 직접 접촉하지 않은

- □ 밀봉한 의료폐기물 <u>전용용기(골판지류)는</u> 수거 전 외부 전체를 1회 더 소독하여 배출하여야 합니다.
- □ 배출된 폐기물은 매일 수거자가 수거하여 '<u>생활치료센터</u>' 내 별도 (임스)보관장소에 보관하여야 합니다.



[생활치료센터 내 폐기물 임시보관 및 운반 소각 처리방법]

- □ 별도 (임시)보관장소는 1회/일 소독을 하여야 하며, 필요시 추가 소독을 진행할 수 있습니다.
- □ 별도 (임시)보관장소에 보관하는 의료폐기물은 매일 의료폐기물 처리 업체(수집·운반, 소각)에서 운반 및 소각처리를 진행하여야 합니다.

불임4

자가격리자 생활폐기물 관리·처리 메뉴얼

① '코로나19' 의심증성이 발생하지 않을 때 생활되기물의 배출요령

가정에서 <u>발생되는</u> 생활폐기물(음식물쓰레기 포함)은 제공되는 <u>전용봉투에</u> 담아서 소독제로 <u>쓰레기층</u> 상부와 봉투 외부를 충분히 소독하여 보관하여 주시기 바랍니다. 1일 1회 이상 소독하여 주시길 권장 드립니다.

전용봉투는 밀폐 포장이 가능하도록 체적의 75% 미만으로 담도록 하며, 다 사용하신 봉투는 소독제로 충분히 소독 후 밀폐되도록 묶어 별도의 보관장소에 모아 보관하시고 1일 1회 이상 소독하시기를 당부 드립니다.

전용봉투에 담긴 폐기물의 외부로의 배출을 자제하되, 불가피하게 전용봉투에 담긴 폐기물을 배출하여야 <u>함</u> 때에는 봉투를 골고루소독한 후 다시 한번 폐기물 종량제 봉투에 넣어 <u>관할</u> 보건소 담당자에게 연락하시면 수거, 처리될 수 있도록 하고 있습니다.

<u> 전용봉투가</u> 제공되기 전까지는 <u>전용봉투를</u> 대신하여 종량제 봉투를 사용하여 담고, 배출할 때는 다시 한번 종량제 봉투에 담아 배출해 주시기를 당부드립니다.

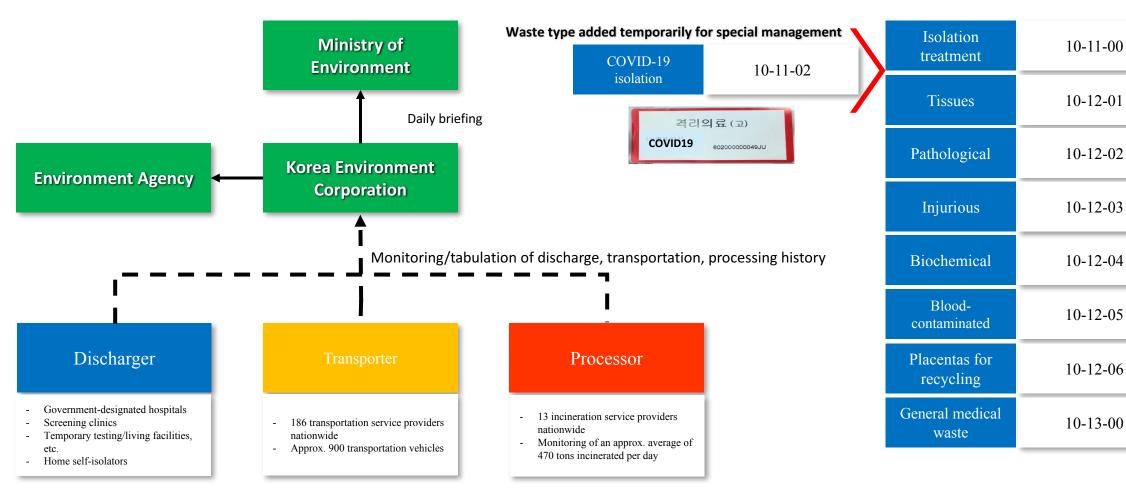
2 '코로나 19' 의심증상이 나타날 때 생활폐기물 배출요령

일단 신종 코로나바이러스 증상이 의심될 때에는 <u>보건단당자에</u> 게 즉시 연락하시고, <u>미과 같이 전용봉투에</u> 담아 보관해 주시기 바랍니다. 보건당국과 전문 처리업체가 무상으로 수거하여 안전하게 처리할 예정입니다.

③ '코로나 19' 확진 후 자가격리된 경우 폐기물 배출요령

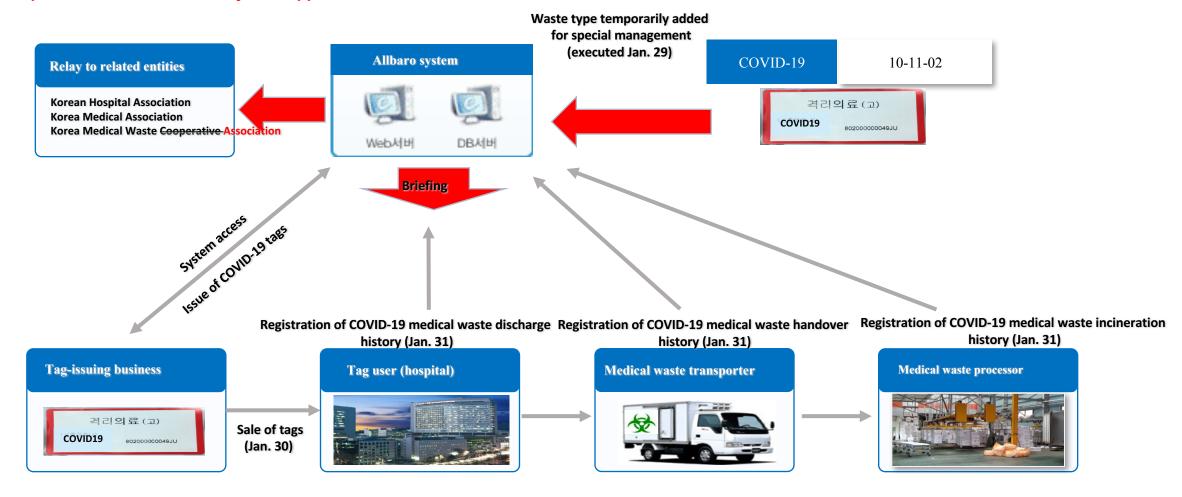


Operation of the COVID-19 Medical Waste Management Briefing Room





Networking of Related Entities for the COVID-19 Special Management Code (approx. 2 days required for activation after system application)







Monitoring and Daily Reporting of **COVID-19 Medical Waste Generation at Special Management Facilities**

[Unit: 1 location, ka]

As of May 18	Discharging hospitals	Volume generated	Volume transported	Volume incinerated
Total amount	417	2,190,647	2,190,647	2,180,352
COVID-19	404	1,868,498	1,868,498	1,860,399
Misc.	40	322,149	322,149	319,953
Daily amount	94	13,004	13,004	7,441
COVID-19	89	11,507	11,507	6,260
Misc.	5	1,497	1,497	1,182



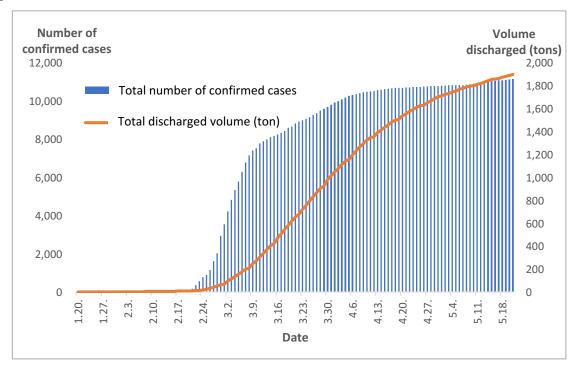
Community treatment centers

- Government-designated: 15 - Local government-designated: 16 Temporary living facilities

- Temporary testing: 16
- Living facilities for short-stay foreigners:



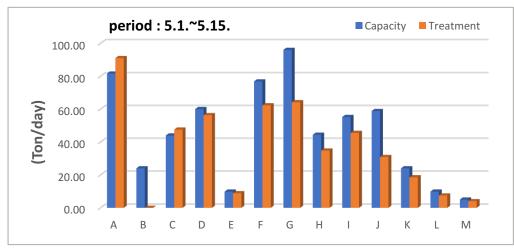
Total Number of Confirmed Cases and Rate of COVID-19 Medical Waste Generation

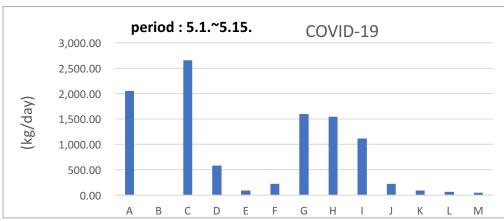




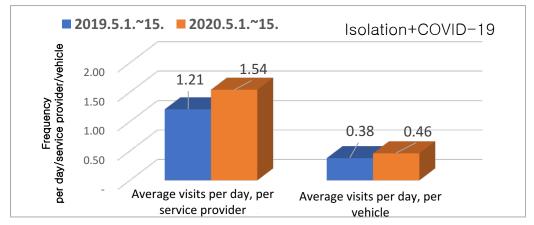


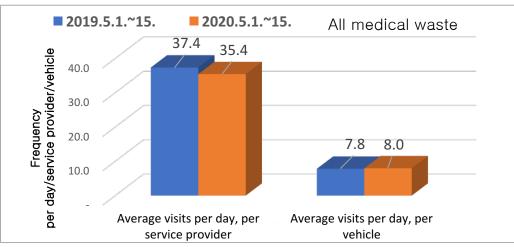
Overview of Incineration at Medical Waste Incineration Facilities





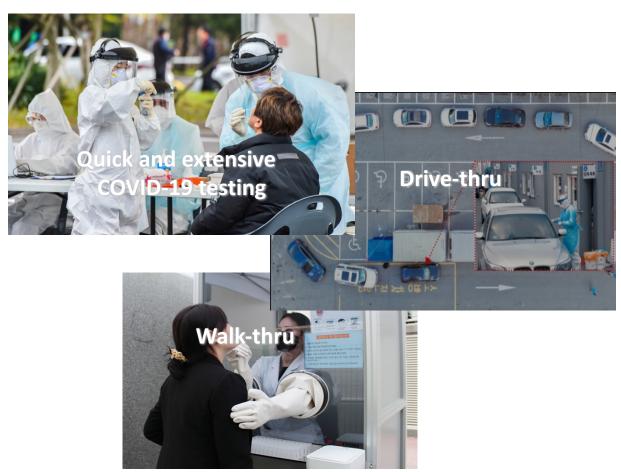
Overview of Change in the Intensity of Work Performed by Transportation Service Providers







Prompt setup of a total-inspection system





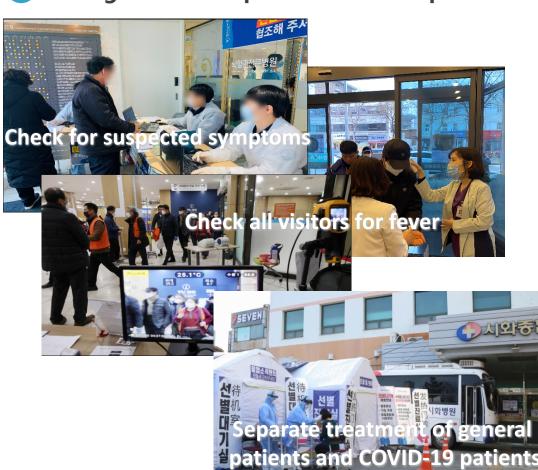
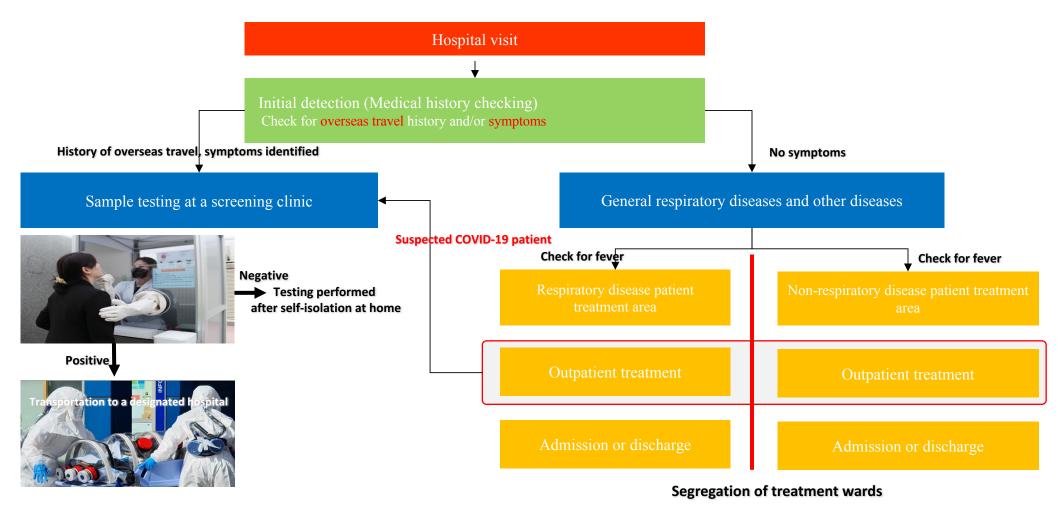


Photo Source: Naver News



Purpose: To guarantee safe medical treatment to everyone, even during the COVID-19 pandemic





Facilities for the Management of Confirmed COVID-19 Patients, Koreans Returning from Overseas, and Foreign Nationals Entering Korea

Types of Facilities

Community treatment centers

Purpose: Treatment of patients with mild cases of COVID-19
Personnel: Dispatched medical personnel and support staff
Discharge after confirmation of full recovery
•Temporary treatment facility to make up for shortage of hospital facilities

Temporary living facilities

Purpose: Support self-isolation by Koreans returning from abroad and foreign nationals entering Korea Personnel: Staff for living support and a minimum number of medical personnel (4 to 5)

Discharge after 14 days of self-isolation at facility

Temporary testing facilities

Purpose: Temporary residence for persons entering Korea from overseas for confirmation of COVID-19 test results

Personnel: Staff for living support and a minimal number of medical personnel (4 to 5)

Discharge after confirmation of test results

* Self-isolation or admission to a temporary living facility

^{*} Training centers of public institutes or large enterprises and privately owned hotels are temporarily used (use of privately owned hotels subsidized by the government)



Community treatment centers



Temporary testing and living facilities for persons entering Korea from overseas

Photo Source: Naver News





Inside of temporary living facility (one person to a room)

Supplies for Persons Admitted to Temporary Living Facilities, and Self-isolators

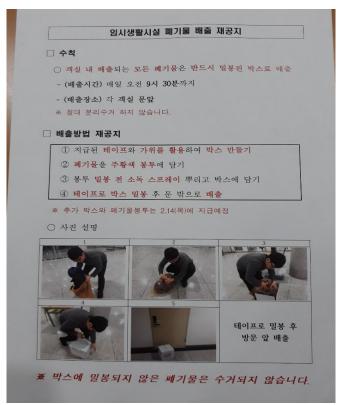




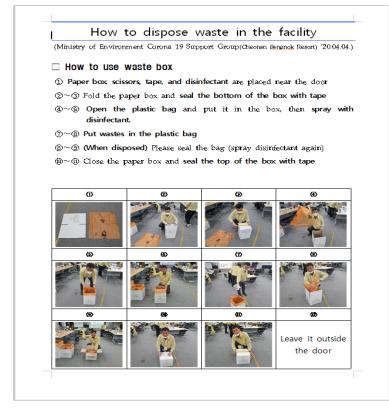
Photo Source: Naver News

Distribution of Guidelines on the Discharge of Waste by Persons Admitted to Special Management Facilities

< Korean >



< English >

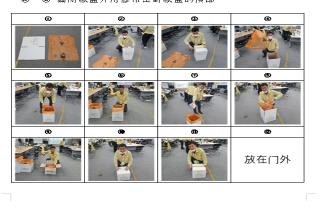


< Chinese >

如何处理设施中的废物(중국어)

□ 垃圾箱的使用方法

- ① 將紙箱,剪刀,膠帶和消毒劑放在門附近
- ②~③ 折疊紙盒,并用膠帶密封紙盒底部
- ④~⑥ 打開塑料袋,放入包裝盒,然后噴洒消毒劑。
- ①~⑧ 將廢物放入塑料袋中
- ●~⑨(廢弃時)請密封包裝袋(再次噴洒消毒劑)
- ⑩~⑪ 關閉紙盒并用膠帶密封紙盒的頂部



* Also provided in German, French, Spanish, and Japanese



Processing of Medical Waste Discharged from Facilities (contact-free collection and safe processing)





On-site Post-management of Medical Waste Improvement Activities in Paraguay



Project Outline

▶PROJECT NAME: ON-SITE POST-MANAGEMENT OF MEDICAL WASTE IMPROVEMENT **ACTIVITIES IN PARAGUAY**

▶OBJECTIVE: PRESENTATION OF GUIDELINES ON EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF MEDICAL WASTE FOR ACHIEVING A SAFE LIVING ENVIRONMENT THROUGH THE PREVENTION OF SPREAD OF SECONDARY INFECTION

▶PROJECT DURATION: OCT. 2019 TO JUN. 2020 (9 MONTHS)

▶BUDGET: KRW60.5 MILLION

Notable Achievements



Dispatched domestic/international experts for inspection of medical waste management conditions at Paraguayan hospitals

- Site inspection of classification, storage, transportation, processing, and incineration



Trial executed at Hospital Distrital Mariano Roque Alonso

- Creation of guidelines on temporary waste storage facility improvement and medical waste management



Workshop to improve the capacity of government (Paraguayan Ministry of Environment) and hospital

- Waste management improvement training, including a study of cases of medical waste management at Korean hospitals



Creation of a "project concept paper" (PCP) aimed at improvement in the field of health and environment in Paraguay

▶ Site inspection at San Pablo Hospital



▶ Medical waste management capacity enhancement ▶ International cooperation in COVID-19 waste workshop



▶ Medical waste management coaching (identifying issues and making improvements)



management

코로나바이러스감염증-19 관련

2020. 3. 2.

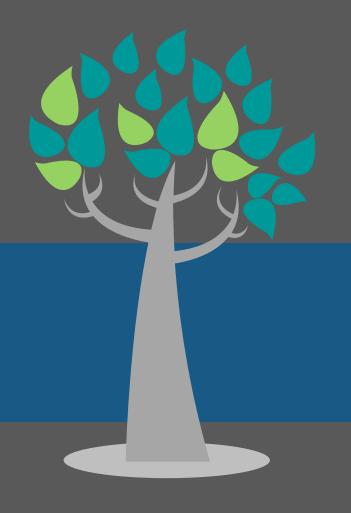
Korean

안전판디 특별대의 제3판」에서 폐기문판다 처리 부분을 발해한 내용임

Gestión de residuos relacionados con la infección por COVID-19

Spanish





Korea's Medical Waste Management for COVID-19 Response

Thank you.

Korea Environment Corporation RFID Operations Team, Department of Resource Recycling