



NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

# WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY

February 2024



**WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY  
FOR THE  
NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH**

## 1. **Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and procedures for the effective management of waste generated at the Nigerian Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) and during research activities. This policy aims to promote environmental sustainability, ensure compliance with regulatory requirements, and minimize the impact of waste on public health and safety.

## 2. **Scope:**

This policy applies to all researchers, staff, students, and contractors involved in research projects conducted at NIMR. It encompasses the management of all types of waste, including hazardous, biomedical, chemical, electronic, and general waste.

## 3. **Waste Segregation and Disposal:**

3.1. Waste generators are responsible for segregating waste at the point of generation into appropriate categories, such as hazardous, biomedical, chemical, recyclable, and general waste. Hazardous waste, including infectious materials,

sharps, and chemicals, must be properly labeled, stored, and disposed of in accordance with local regulations and best practices.

3.2. Biomedical waste should be collected and disposed of using biohazard bags and containers to prevent contamination and exposure to pathogens.

3.3. Chemical waste must be managed according to the principles of chemical safety, including proper labeling, storage, and disposal methods.

3.4. Electronic waste (e-waste) should be recycled or disposed of in compliance with e-waste management regulations to prevent environmental pollution.

#### **4. Waste Minimization and Recycling:**

4.1. Waste generators are encouraged to minimize waste generation through the use of sustainable practices, such as reducing paper consumption, reusing materials, and recycling whenever possible.

- 4.2. Recycling bins should be placed in strategic locations throughout the institute to facilitate the recycling of paper, plastic, glass, and metal waste.
- 4.3. Research laboratories and facilities should implement waste reduction strategies, such as using digital documentation, purchasing bulk supplies, and implementing green procurement practices.

## **6. Training and Awareness:**

- 5.1. All employees, students, and contractors at NIMR must receive training on waste management practices, including waste segregation, handling, and disposal procedures.
- 5.2. Awareness campaigns and educational materials should be provided to promote a culture of waste reduction, recycling, and environmental stewardship among institute members.

5.3. Regular training sessions and refresher courses on waste management best practices should be conducted to ensure ongoing compliance with this policy.

7. **Compliance and Enforcement:**

3.1. Non-compliance with this policy may result in disciplinary action, including warnings, fines, or termination of employment or contract.

3.2. Waste management practices will be monitored and audited regularly to ensure compliance with this policy and relevant regulations.

3.3. The Environmental Health and Safety Committee at NIMR is responsible for overseeing the implementation of this policy and ensuring compliance with waste management requirements.

## 7. **Review and Revision:**

This policy will be reviewed annually and updated as needed to reflect changes in waste management regulations, best practices, and organizational requirements. Amendments to the policy will be communicated to all stakeholders in a timely manner.

## 8. **Contact Information:**

For questions or concerns regarding this policy, please contact the Safety Committee at NIMR.

Approved by:



**Prof. Babatunde Lawal Salako**

*Director General /CEO*

Nigerian Institute of Medical Research

Lagos