Healthcare waste management

Is there a chance to non-hazardous healthcare waste?

**BRINC Workshop**
Accelerating the Circular Economy through Public Procurement of Innovation

Brussels, March 19th 2024
What is the ICS?

The ICS is the biggest public healthcare provider in Catalonia.
What is the ICS?

6,000,000 referred population
82.2%

8 Hospitals

332 Primary Care Centres
617 rural Medical offices

52,000 professionals
Our mission is keeping people healthy
But doing so we impact on the environment
Healthcare waste
Legal Frame

Decree 27/1999 on healthcare waste management

➢ Any waste produced in a healthcare centre is healthcare waste.

➢ 4 groups of healthcare waste

✓ Group I: Recyclable domestic waste
✓ Group II: Non hazardous sanitary waste
✓ Group III: Bio-hazardous sanitary waste
✓ Group IV: Other hazardous waste
Legal Frame

Decree 27/1999 on healthcare waste management

Group II

- Non hazardous
- Same treatment as domestic waste
- Laid in thick bags
- To landfill
Legal Frame

Decree 27/1999 on healthcare waste management

Group III

- Bio-hazardous
- Laid in hard containers
- Sterilization and trituration
Waste in the ICS

Group III 1,700 Tons/year

What can be done?

✓ It’s Bio-hazardous so can’t be manipulated
✓ Avoid to mix with non-hazardous
✓ Tracking system container per container
  Increases the management efficiency
Waste in the ICS

Group II  13,500 Tons/year

What can be done?

✓ It’s non hazardous when no manipulated, but needs to go untouched to landfill to ensure
✓ Reduction by avoiding single-use materials
✓ High quality materials potentially recyclable
✓ Previous sorting is difficult due to organisation and space
Waste in the ICS

SUSTEIN

Sustein. Spain
- Turn waste into building materials
- Recent creation company
- Not enough costumers yet
- Previous sterilization increases cost

Preliminary market consultation
Waste in the ICS

Circular Medico. Denmark
✓ Material identification fibres to automatically sort the waste for recycling

✓ Needs a procurement that includes the purchasing of the recycled goods. Hard to integrate into ICS procurement structure.
Waste in the ICS

Re-Lab. Sweden
✓ Plastic treatment to turn it into combustion gas
✓ Focused in lab materials
✓ Sorting solutions
✓ Should be locally based to avoid transportation footprint
Waste in the ICS

RISE. Sweden
✓ Collaboration and exploring opportunities
Waste in the ICS

What are we seeking?
✓ A consistent business model
✓ The accomplishment of the catalan healthcare waste law.
✓ Sterilization in the recycling process itself
✓ Preferably an out-building waste sorting
✓ Proximity treatment or reuse preparation
Waste in the ICS
Ideas and proposals welcome
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