



HAND HYGIENE REQUIREMENTS

Excellent Infection Prevention practices by all of us are necessary. Hand hygiene (hand washing) is the #1 way to prevent the transmission of bacteria. Basic infection prevention activities include good hand hygiene and the use of gowns, gloves, and disposables in contact precaution rooms. It is imperative that these measures be adhered to upon entry to a patient's room even if direct contact with the patient is not anticipated. All surfaces should be considered contaminated and could be touched inadvertently.

Our policy is to perform hand hygiene when entering the patient's room and exit from patient's room. Other indications are noted below. In addition, it is the responsibility of each healthcare worker entering a contact precaution room to wear a gown and gloves upon entry to the room. Failure to follow these basic practices places our patients at increased risk of infection and places our healthcare workers at risk. Products used for hand hygiene include alcohol gel or soap and water. Soap and water must be used when your hands are visibly soiled

Other Indications for hand hygiene:

- Before donning sterile gloves when inserting invasive lines, or catheters,
- After contact with body fluids or excretions, mucous membranes, non-intact skin and wound dressing
- If moving from a contaminated body site to a clean body site during patient care,
- After removing gloves
- Before eating and after using a restroom, wash hands with a non-antimicrobial soap and water or with an antimicrobial soap and water.

REMEMBER---Gloves do not take the place of hand hygiene. Hand hygiene must be done before you don gloves and after you remove gloves. Gloves must be changed between patients. Artificial nails are not allowed to be worn by direct patient care givers, employees who handle or reprocess equipment or instruments, and food service workers who directly handle food.

- A. When decontaminating hands with an alcohol-based hand rub, apply product to palm of one hand and rub hands together, covering all surfaces of hands and fingers, until hands are dry. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations regarding the volume of product to use.
- B. When washing hands with soap and water, wet hands first with water, apply an amount of product recommended by the manufacturer to hands, and rub hands together vigorously for at least 15-20 seconds, covering all surfaces of the hands and fingers. Rinse hands with water and dry thoroughly with a disposable towel. Use towel to turn off the faucet. Avoid using hot water, because repeated exposure to hot water may increase the risk of dermatitis.

We have developed a secret shopper program to observe for compliance with hand hygiene and wearing appropriate isolation precaution attire.

- Hospital staff who are observed to be non-compliant will first receive a warning letter from either the ID physician, or the IP Director., another episode of non-compliance will result in disciplinary action including up to termination by the department leader
- Physician noncompliance is handled through the Chief Medical Officer. Medical Residents are handled through the Program Director.

I have read the above and understand the importance of these requirements. I understand the steps that will be taken if I am observed to be non compliant with hand hygiene or not compliant with appropriate isolation attire..

Print Name _____ Department _____ Date _____

Signature _____