



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT  
*of* HEALTH SERVICES

# Wisconsin HAI Long-Term Care Education Series

June 24, 2021

# Today's Agenda

- Hand Hygiene
  - **Stacey Firkus**, Regional Infection Preventionist, HAI Program
  - **Rosie Bartel**, Patient Advisor
- IPC Considerations
  - **Aimee Mikesch**, Regional Infection Preventionist, HAI Program



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT  
*of* HEALTH SERVICES

# Hand Hygiene: More Than Just Soap and Water

Stacey Firkus, MT(ASCP), MPH, CIC  
Regional Infection Preventionist,  
Southern Region

Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI)  
Prevention Program  
June 24, 2021

# Discussion Points

- What is hand hygiene?
- Importance of hand hygiene
- Myths
- Audits and quality improvement
- Common citation themes



# What is Hand Hygiene?

- Handwashing: plain soap and water
- Antiseptic hand wash: antiseptic soap and water
- Alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR): alcohol-based foam or gel
- Surgical hand antisepsis: done prior to surgery



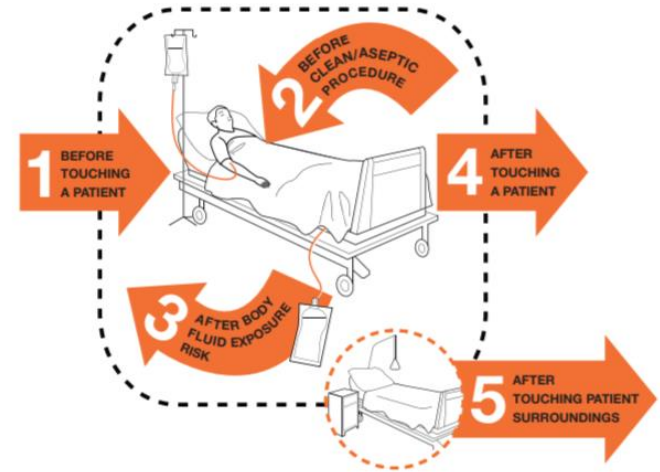
# Why is Hand Hygiene Important?

- The most common method of pathogen transmission is via health care personnel/staff hands.
- CDC estimates almost 2 million patients are affected by HAIs each year and about 90,000 will die as a result of that infection.
- Good compliance and audits are important for resident safety.

# Indications for Hand Hygiene

- Before
  - Patient contact
  - Donning PPE
  - Performing an aseptic task
- After
  - Patient contact
  - Doffing PPE
  - Contact with blood and other bodily fluids

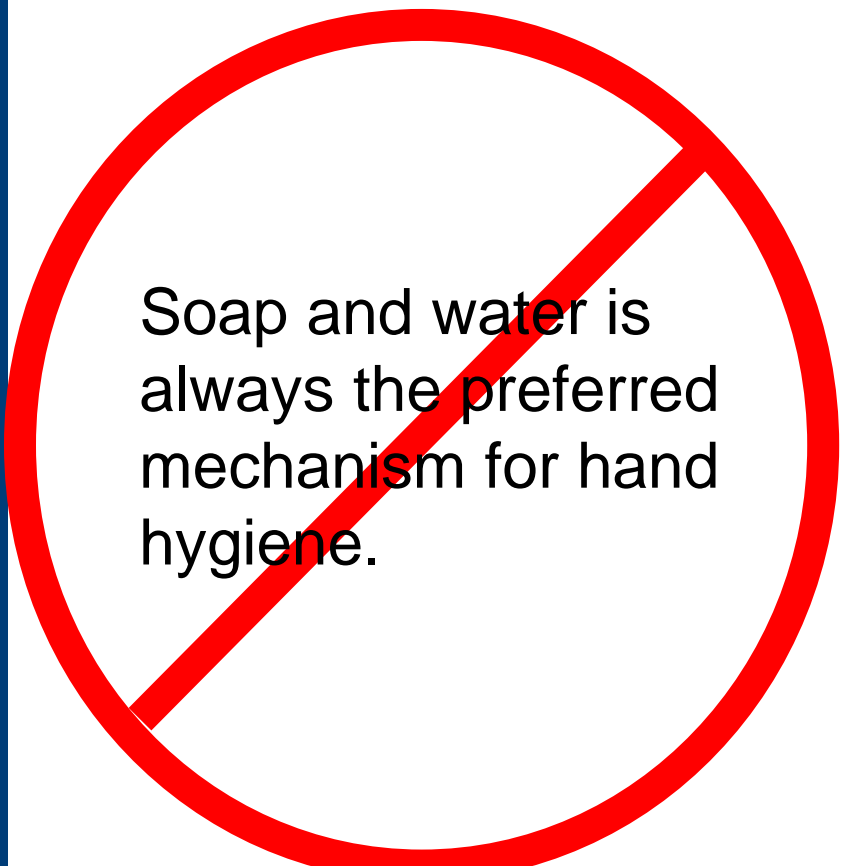
## Your 5 Moments for Hand Hygiene



Source:

[https://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/Your\\_5\\_Moments\\_For\\_Hand\\_Hygiene\\_Poster.pdf](https://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/Your_5_Moments_For_Hand_Hygiene_Poster.pdf)

# Myth



Soap and water is  
always the preferred  
mechanism for hand  
hygiene.

ABHR is the preferred  
method for cleaning  
hands in most clinical  
situations.



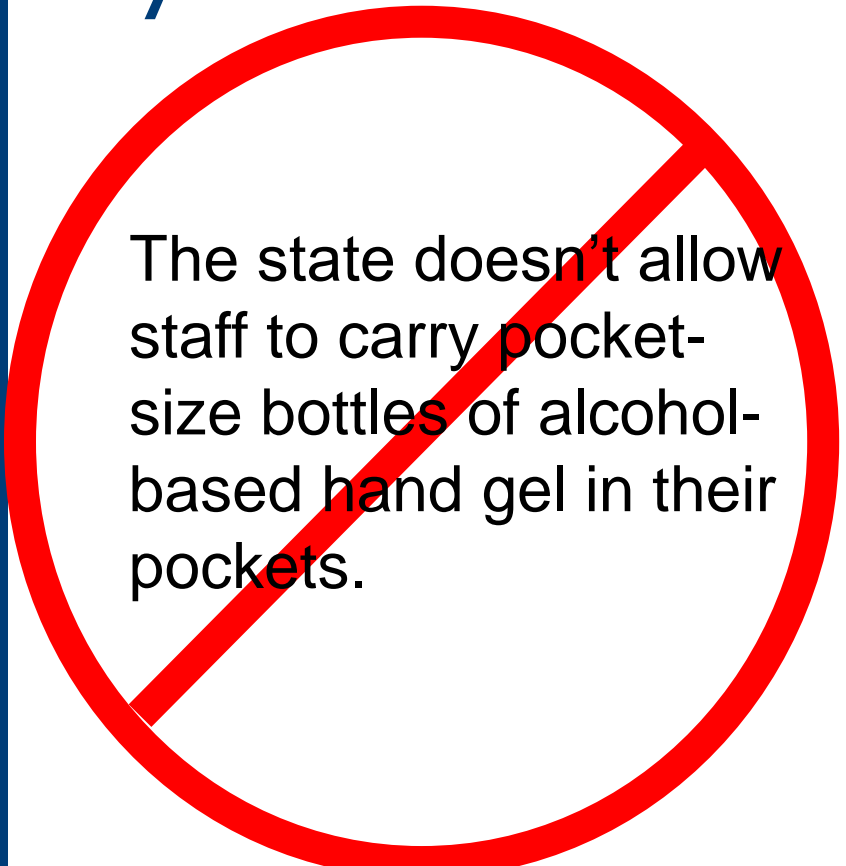
# Myth



I should ALWAYS  
use alcohol-based  
hand rub.

ABHR is the preferred method for cleaning hands in most clinical situations except when soiled or with certain infectious diseases (for example, C. diff, Norovirus).

# Myth



The state doesn't allow staff to carry pocket-size bottles of alcohol-based hand gel in their pockets.

Hand sanitizer should be widely available for staff. This can include pocket bottles as long as staff take care to not re-contaminate hands when using it.

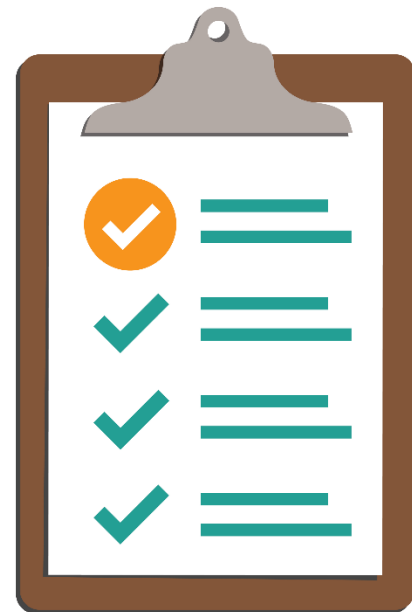
# Guidance

- ABHR is the preferred method for hand hygiene other than for GI-related illness.
- Stock and maintain:
  - ABHR in every resident room and other common areas.
  - Handwashing supplies at each sink.



# Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, F880

- Infection prevention and control program
- Facility assessment
- Policies and procedures
- Documentation of audits



What are you doing with those results?

# Example Audit Tool

## Hand Hygiene Observations

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Auditor: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle one phrase from each column that best describes the opportunity you are observing.

Hand Hygiene Audits

Hand Hygiene Audits

1

Title	Indication	Action	Coached/Comments
MD/APNP/PA	Before resident		
Nurse	Before asept	Alcohol rub	
CNA	After resident	Soap and water	
Dietary	After surroundings	None Performed	
EVS	After body fluid		
Other staff			

5

Title	Indication	Action	Coached/Comments
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Nurse	Before asept	Alcohol rub	
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2

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# Share Your Audit Results



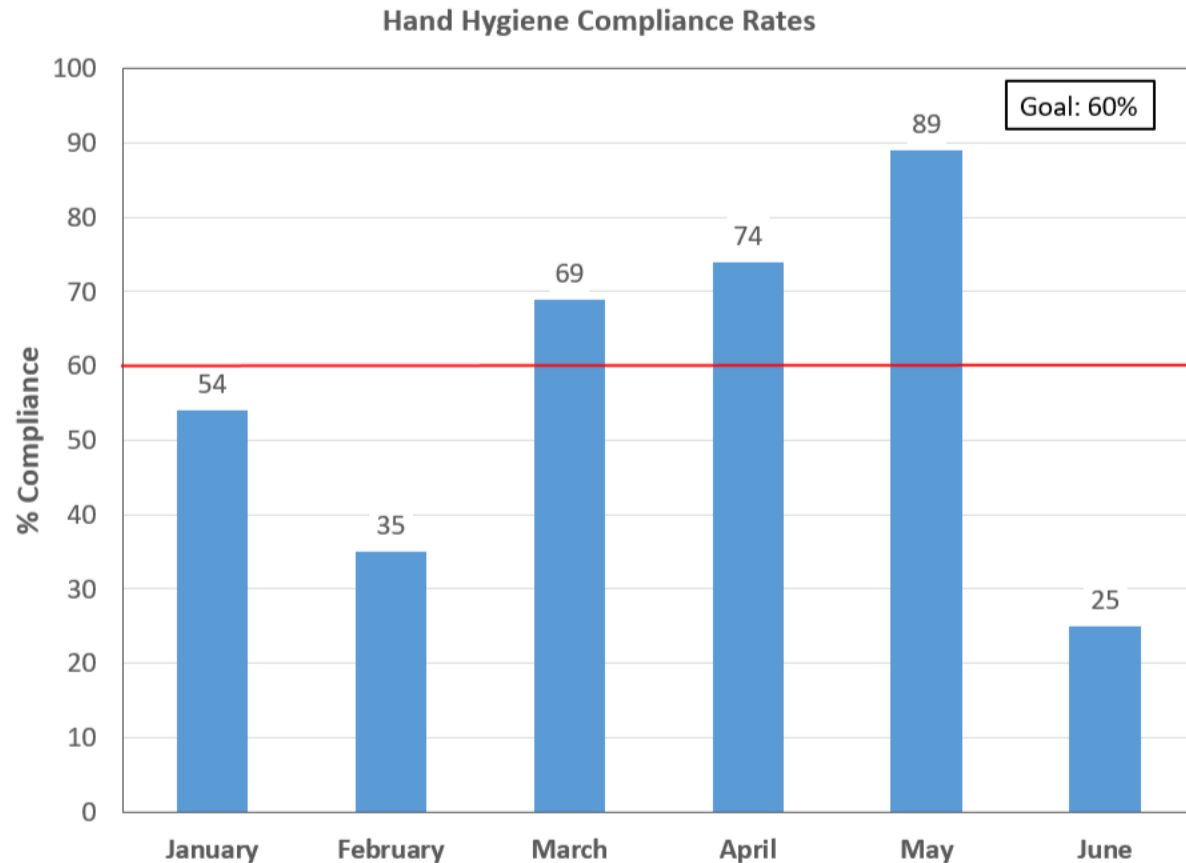
# CLEAN HANDS SAVE LIVES

**[Unit Name], [Month]**

## Our goal: [X%]

**Currently: [X] completed / [X] opportunities = [X%]**

# Share Your Audit Results



# Citation Theme: Oral Care

Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene after completing incontinent care and before proceeding to oral care.





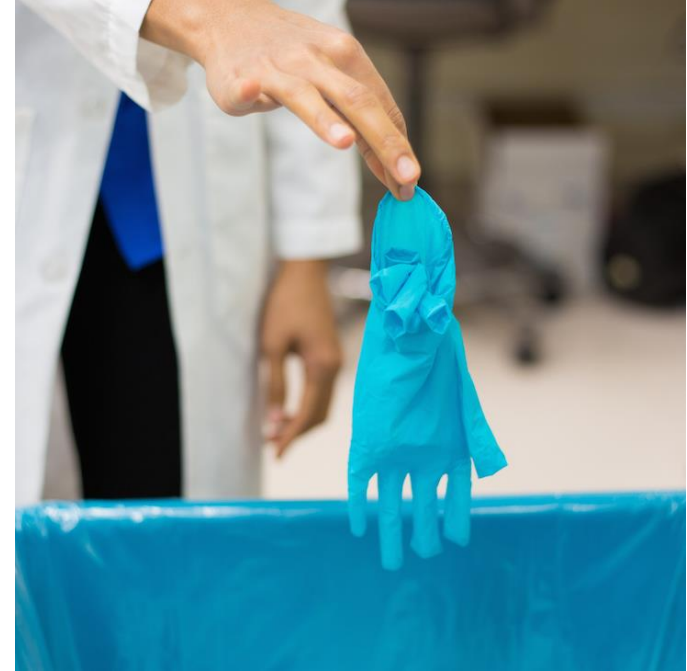
# Citation Theme: Offer Opportunities

Offer hand hygiene to residents before meals or after using the restroom.



# Citation Theme: Peri Care

- Perform hand hygiene after removing gloves to provide peri care for residents.
- Use appropriate PPE during peri care and perform proper hand hygiene during the process.



# References

- [https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/som107ap\\_pp\\_guidelines\\_ltcf.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/som107ap_pp_guidelines_ltcf.pdf)
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5116.pdf#page=19>

# References

- <https://www.cdc.gov/handhygiene/providers/index.html>
- [http://www.apic.org/Resource\\_/TinyMceFileManager/Practice\\_Guidance/id\\_APIC-SHEA\\_GuidelineforICinLTCFs.pdf](http://www.apic.org/Resource_/TinyMceFileManager/Practice_Guidance/id_APIC-SHEA_GuidelineforICinLTCFs.pdf)
- <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/regulations/nh/hai-events-index.htm> (HAI in LTC Coalition hand hygiene conference materials)

# The Impact of Hand Hygiene

- HAIs affect us all.
- Hand hygiene is one of the core infection prevention principles.
- It is often difficult to determine what exactly causes an infection.

# Hand Hygiene is Personal

Rosie Bartel  
Patient Advisor



Source:

<http://www.ihl.org/resources/Pages/AudioandVideo/OnelsTooManyViewingInfectionDatafromPatientsPerspective.aspx>

Questions?

# IPC Considerations



# Eyewash Station Considerations



- Accessible: no more than 10 seconds/55 feet away
- Visible
- Functional
  - Can flush for a minimum of 15 minutes at a time
  - Ability to adjust hot and cold temperatures
  - Inspected and flushed weekly

Eyewash station vs. wall-mounted saline bottles

# Linens Storage Considerations

- Linen carts
  - Cleaning
  - Inspection
  - Placement
- Storage locations
- Storage room ventilation



# Questions?

HAI Prevention Program

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# HAI Prevention Program IPs

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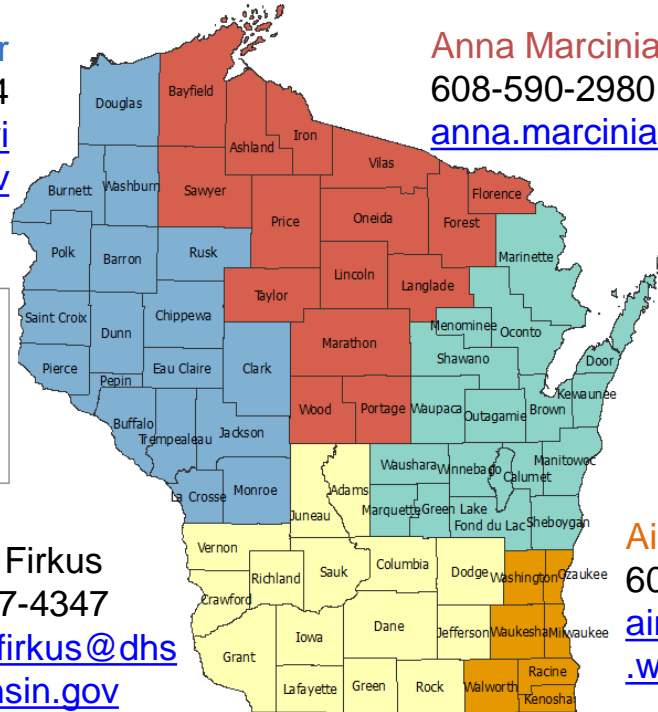
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<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/hai/ip-education.htm>

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 HAI Infection Prevention Education

## HAI Infection Prevention Education

The resources below are intended to connect health care facility infection preventionists (IP) with education materials to support their role in preventing, detecting, and responding to healthcare-associated infections. IPs play an essential role in facility infection prevention policy development, surveillance, and risk assessment.

IPs serve as a resource to other staff and programs within their facilities. In addition to the state in-person trainings and online references below, there are a number of links to trusted education resources, including the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC), the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC).



### Professional Resources

- [Infection Preventionist Starter Kit, P-02992](#) (PDF)

# **Upcoming LTC Education Session**

Thursday, July 22, 2021

Identifying, Investigating, and Responding to Novel  
Multidrug-Resistant Organisms (MDROs)