### Hand hygiene Audit Tool for Care Homes

**Action**
- This audit tool should be used as a monthly rolling programme of audit of compliance with your ‘Hand hygiene Policy’. All staff should be assessed for hand hygiene technique on at least an annual basis.
- All columns should be completed.
- During clinical situations, where possible, staff should be observed undertaking ‘Key Moments’ – see overleaf.
- During non-clinical situations, e.g. assessing hand hygiene technique after a team meeting, tick N/A in the ‘Key Moments’ column.
- In the event of non-compliance, action plans should be produced and reviewed regularly.
- Completed audit tools should be kept locally for good practice assurance and as evidence for CQC inspections.

**NOTES:**
* Staff should be ‘Bare Below the Elbows’ (BBE) when delivering direct care to residents. BBE is being free from long-sleeved clothing, wrist and hand jewellery (other than one plain band ring). Long sleeves, if worn, should be rolled or pushed up to the elbows. Finger nails should be short and clean, no nail varnish, false or acrylic nails, nail extensions or nail jewellery.
** Refer to the ‘Hand hygiene technique for staff’ poster overleaf.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Observation</th>
<th>Staff member being observed</th>
<th>‘Key Moments’ Was the opportunity taken to clean their hands at each moment</th>
<th>Staff are ‘Bare Below the Elbows’*</th>
<th>Cuts and grazes are covered with a waterproof plaster</th>
<th>The correct hand hygiene technique is used when cleaning hands**</th>
<th>Paper towels are disposed of without touching the waste bin lid</th>
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KEY MOMENTS FOR HAND HYGIENE

Your 5 moments for hand hygiene at the point of care

1. **BEFORE RESIDENT CONTACT**
   - **WHEN?** Clean your hands before touching a resident when approaching him/her.
   - **WHY?** To protect the resident against harmful germs carried on your hands.

2. **BEFORE A CLEAN/ASEPTIC PROCEDURE**
   - **WHEN?** Clean your hands immediately before any clean/aseptic procedure.
   - **WHY?** To protect the resident against harmful germs, including the resident’s own, from entering his/her body.

3. **AFTER BODY FLUID EXPOSURE RISK**
   - **WHEN?** Clean your hands immediately after an exposure risk to body fluids (and after glove removal).
   - **WHY?** To protect yourself and the healthcare environment from harmful resident germs.

4. **AFTER RESIDENT CONTACT**
   - **WHEN?** Clean your hands after touching a resident and her/his immediate surroundings, when leaving the resident’s side.
   - **WHY?** To protect yourself and the healthcare environment from harmful resident germs.

5. **AFTER CONTACT WITH RESIDENT SURROUNDINGS**
   - **WHEN?** Clean your hands after touching any object or furniture in the resident’s immediate surroundings when leaving—even if the resident has not been touched.
   - **WHY?** To protect yourself and the healthcare environment from harmful resident germs.

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HAND HYGIENE TECHNIQUE FOR STAFF

- If using liquid soap and warm water: use all steps.
- If using alcohol handrub: use steps 2-8.

1. Wet hands
2. Apply enough liquid soap to cover all hand surfaces
3. Rub hands palm to palm
4. Rub hands back and forth
5. Rub hands palm to palm
6. Rinse with running water
7. Dry hands
8. Avoid touching face
9. Use disposable face covering when sneezing or coughing
10. Use elbow or paper towel to blow nose or sneeze
11. Use disposable face covering if sneezing or coughing
12. Use disposable face covering if sneezing or coughing

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