Hand Hygiene Audit Tool for Dental Practice

**Action**
- This audit tool can be used as a rolling programme of audit of compliance with your Hand Hygiene Policy. Please note that all staff should be assessed for hand hygiene technique on at least an annual basis.
- Please use additional copies of this form as necessary.
- 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 Moment’ 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.

**Observation** | **Staff member being observed** | **‘Key Moments’**<br>Was the opportunity taken to clean their hands at each moment | **Staff are ‘Bare Below the Elbows’**<br>**Cuts and grazes are covered with a waterproof plaster** | **The correct hand hygiene technique is used when washing hands**<br>**Paper towels are disposed of without touching the waste bin lid**
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
No. 1 | | Yes □ No □ N/A □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ |
No. 2 | | Yes □ No □ N/A □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ |
No. 3 | | Yes □ No □ N/A □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ |
No. 4 | | Yes □ No □ N/A □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ |
No. 5 | | Yes □ No □ N/A □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ |
No. 6 | | Yes □ No □ N/A □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ |
No. 7 | | Yes □ No □ N/A □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ |
No. 8 | | Yes □ No □ N/A □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ |
No. 9 | | Yes □ No □ N/A □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ |
No. 10 | | Yes □ No □ N/A □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ | Yes □ No □ |

**NOTES:**
- * Staff should be ‘Bare Below the Elbows’ (BBE) when delivering direct care to patients. 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.

**Auditor:** ................................................................. **Unit/Location:** ................................................................. **Date:** .................................................................
KEY MOMENTS FOR HAND HYGIENE

Your 5 moments for hand hygiene at the point of care*

1. **BEFORE TOUCHING A PATIENT**
   - **WHEN?** Clean your hands before touching a patient.
   - **WHY?** To protect the patient against harmful germs carried on your hands.

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

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

4. **AFTER TOUCHING A PATIENT**
   - **WHEN?** Clean your hands after touching a patient at the end of the encounter when the encounter is interrupted.
   - **WHY?** To protect yourself and the environment from harmful patient germs.

5. **AFTER TOUCHING PATIENT SURROUNDINGS**
   - **WHEN?** Clean your hands after touching any object or furniture in the patient surroundings when a specific zone is temporarily and exclusively dedicated to a patient—even if the patient has not been touched.
   - **WHY?** To protect yourself and the environment from harmful patient germs.

*Adapted from the WHO Alliance for Patient Safety 2012

HAND HYGIENE TECHNIQUE FOR STAFF

Using liquid soap and warm water

- Wash hands with soap and warm water
- Rub hands together for at least 20 seconds
- Rinse hands with running water
- Dry hands with paper towels

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