Hand Hygiene Audit Tool for General Practice

- 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’ | Staff are ‘Bare Below the Elbows’* | Cuts and grazes are covered with a waterproof plaster | The correct hand hygiene technique is used when washing hands** | Paper towels are disposed of without touching the waste bin lid
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
No. 1 | Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐
No. 2 | Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐
No. 3 | Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐
No. 4 | Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐
No. 5 | Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐
No. 6 | Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐
No. 7 | Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐
No. 8 | Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐
No. 9 | Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐
No. 10 | Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | Yes ☐ No ☐ | 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 PATIENT CONTACT
   WHEN? Clean your hands before touching a patient when approaching him/her.
   WHY? To protect the patient 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 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 an exposure risk to body fluids (and after glove removal).
   WHY? To protect yourself and the healthcare environment from harmful patient germs.

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

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

*Based on WHO poster ‘Your 5 moments for hand hygiene’ and reproduced with their kind permission

HAND HYGIENE TECHNIQUE FOR STAFF
Using liquid soap and warm water

1. Wet hands under warm running water.
2. Use scour of paper towel to turn off tap.
3. Rub hands with soap to lather.
4. Rinse hands under warm running water.
5. Dry hands with paper towel.
6. Rub hands with soap to lather.
7. Rinse hands under warm running water.
8. Dry hands with paper towel.
9. Rinse hands under warm running water.
10. Use scour of paper towel to turn off tap.
11. Dry hands with paper towel.
12. Your hands are now clean.

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