

IPC Bulletin for Domiciliary Care

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Produced by an NHS Community Infection Prevention and Control Team based in North Yorkshire for distribution to subscribers.

Monday, 5th May, 2025, is World Hand Hygiene Day



Hand hygiene saves millions of lives each year when using the correct technique and performed at the right time.

[World Hand Hygiene Day 2025](https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-hand-hygiene-day)

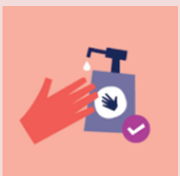
It might be gloves. It is always hand hygiene.



Disposable gloves do not protect you 100% and can get contaminated as easily as bare hands.



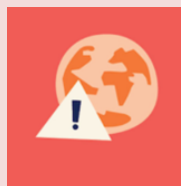
Gloves should be removed as soon as the care task has been completed. Hand hygiene is essential after glove removal.



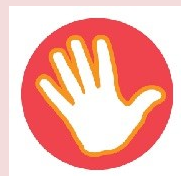
Hand hygiene 'the right way' is still one of the most important measures to protect service users and healthcare workers.



Don't miss a 'Moment' of hand hygiene. Ensure staff are aware of the WHO 'My 5 moments of Hand hygiene' posters.



Excessive glove use contributes significantly to the volume of waste. Assess each task and decide if you need to use gloves.



A range of hand hygiene resources are also available at www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk.

Examples of when to use disposable gloves:

- If the activity may involve exposure to blood or other body fluid, including contact with mucous membranes and non-intact skin
- During contact precautions
- During outbreak situations
- Emptying or changing a urine drainage bag

Examples of when disposable gloves are **not** required (except for contact precautions):

- Giving oral medication
- Assisting service users to get dressed or mobilise
- Taking a blood pressure
- Handing out meals or assisting service users with feeding

What's new for Domiciliary Care staff

- IPC training event for Care Homes and Domiciliary Care: 22nd September, 2025. **BOOK NOW**, download the booking form at www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk/events/
- The UKHSA has launched a new campaign <https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2025/04/07/what-is-antimicrobial-resistance-amr-and-how-can-you-combat-it/>

Visit our website to find lots of IPC resources, many of which are free to download.

www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk

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