

Accreditation: Patient Safety Bulletin of the Week

September 2021: **Hand-Hygiene Compliance**

What is hand-hygiene?

- **Alcohol-Based Hand Rub (ABHR)** - Apply and rub a hand sanitizer to the surface of the hands for 20 - 30 sec.
- **Hands washing** with the use of water and soap for 15 - 20 sec.

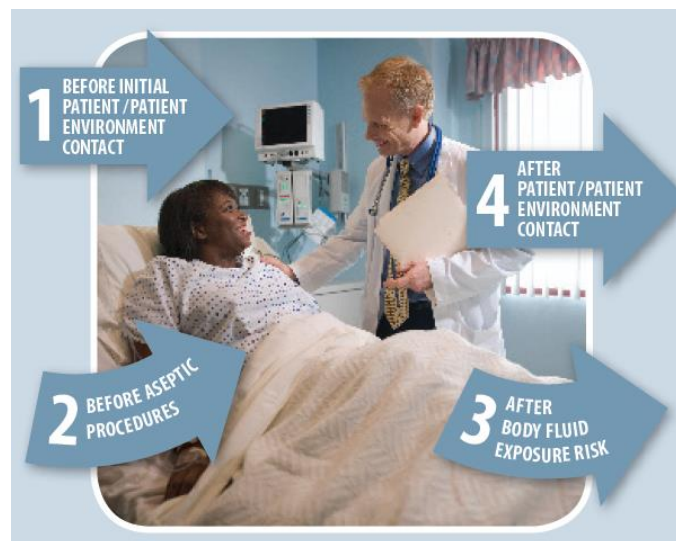


How do we measure compliance?

1. **Direct Observation** - Best method
2. **Self-audit** - Teams can observe each other
3. **Product Use** measurement
4. **Client satisfaction surveys** - Ask team members' hand-hygiene compliance
5. **Quality of hand-hygiene techniques** - Measurement through ultraviolet gels or lotions

Proper hand hygiene is considered the single most important way to reduce health care associated infections, but compliance with accepted hand-hygiene practices is often poor.

The Four Moments for Hand Hygiene



When do you need to be compliant with hand-hygiene?

How does NTHSSA measure compliance?

1. **Hand Hygiene Audits** - Performed for 20 min by an Infection Control Committee member observing hand hygiene of the staff.
2. **Health Care-Associated Infection (HAI) Rates** - Monitor for Clostridium Difficile, MRSA & Surgical Site Infection rates.
3. **Hand Hygiene Training Rates** - Monitor staff training rates: Annually and with new employee onboarding.

Best way to measure compliance

- **Direct Observation Practices**
- Team observing each other and the work environment.
- Trained observer or healthcare professionals working together observing work environment.