

December, 2009

To **All** Hand Hygiene Observers:

Thank you for being involved with the hand hygiene observation program. Attached are Hand Hygiene Monitoring forms. Please complete these forms and return to me no later than the end of the week that the observation takes place. Please do this each week.



Please note the following during your travel throughout the hospital:

- NO ONE is exempt from being observed. Anyone and everyone that enters a patient room or environment is eligible to be observed.
- NEVER announce that you are there to perform hand monitoring. Be as anonymous as you can. You can go about your normal duties and just watch what others are doing. You can look at name tags or ask names after the observations are done.
- Hand Hygiene is either washing with soap and water or cleaning with alcohol foam.
- Each entry and each exit are counted as separate opportunities for observation.
- You don't need to see a person enter and then wait for them to complete their chore and exit a patient space just for monitoring. The form may have a line with "before" completed and "after" left blank, or vice versa.
- Hand Hygiene is required EVERY TIME upon entering and upon exiting a patient's room or environment. This means that hand hygiene must be performed even if going into a room and not touching anything.
- Alcohol foam is inside and outside of each patient room. Be careful to observe what the person being observed does before and after they enter and exit. If they have foamed exiting one room and go straight to another without touching anything at all in between, that's acceptable.
- If a staff member is still with a patient but leaves the room for supplies, they must cleanse hands each time they exit and again upon re-entering the room.
- Give appropriate tactful feedback to the individuals being observed.
- Have FUN!

Again, turn the monitoring forms in to me no later than the end of the week that the observation takes place. You can either hand deliver them to my office on 3North or fax to 27625. PLEASE call or page me if you have any questions. Thanks very much for participating and enhancing our facilities hand hygiene performance!

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*Got Paws?
Wash 'em!*

