

HAND HYGIENE PROTECTS HUMAN LIFE

5 TO 8 MILLION LIVES COULD BE SAVED EVERY YEAR, IF DOCTORS AND NURSING STAFF WERE TO CLEAN THEIR HANDS PROPERLY.²

CAUSES

61 %

of healthcare professionals do not clean their hands correctly.¹

Reasons:



Not enough time due to excessive workload:
10 seconds time per cleaning process on average.¹



Fear and bad experience:
the development of skin irritation is attributed to alcoholic hand sanitizers. However, in many cases it is down to hands being washed wrongly and frequently.¹



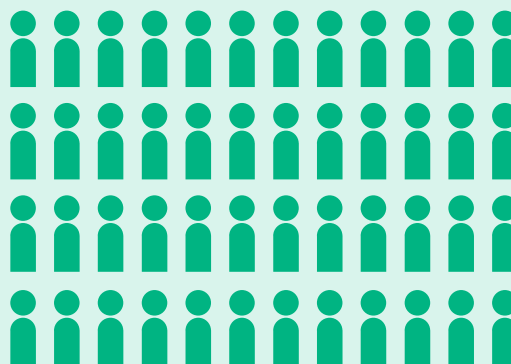
False assumption:
usage of disposable gloves supposedly compensates for an omitted disinfection.¹

CONSEQUENCES

16 million

patients per year die from hospital-acquired infections.²

This is about the population of the Netherlands.



In developing countries the lack of hand hygiene occurs **twice as many times as in western countries and is therefore the most frequent cause of death of patients.**²



SOLUTION

50 %

of all hospital-acquired infections can be avoided easily.²

People need to:

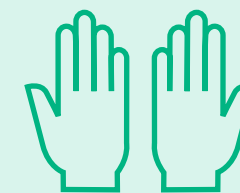


use alcoholic hand sanitizers correctly.

1. BEFORE PATIENT CONTACT
2. BEFORE ASEPTIC TASK
3. AFTER BODY FLUID EXPOSURE RISK
4. AFTER PATIENT CONTACT
5. AFTER CONTACT WITH PATIENT SURROUNDINGS

apply hand hygiene at the right time.

May 5 is World Hand Hygiene Day. It is to remind everyone of how important this matter is. Become part of this global movement.



<http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/en/>

References: ¹WHO; Presentation: WHO_Facts_DRT661; "Health Care-Associated Infection and Hand Hygiene Improvement - Slides for the Hand Hygiene Co-ordinator von der WHO", under <http://www.who.int> (accessed at 2 May 2016)

²Pittet, Didier; "Adapt to adopt; TEDxPlaceDesNations", under <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5tgH0uTqqcE> (accessed at 2 May 2016)

³WHO; "Countries with health-care facilities registered for SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands global campaign", under http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/registration_update/en/ (accessed at 2 May 2016)