

## **WHO SAVE LIVES: Clean *Your* Hands**

### **SL: CYH Newsletter**

#### ***Our call to action to health workers***

**15 December 2015**

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#### **Planning for 5 May 2016 – SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands global annual day of action**

The first international guideline on prevention of surgical site infection will be issued by WHO in 2016! Hand hygiene in all surgical departments, as part of an infection prevention and control programme, prevents patient infection and reduces an avoidable burden on health systems. Therefore, hand hygiene improvement in surgical departments (from operating theatres, to the surgical ward, to outpatient surgical services) will be the focus of 5 May 2016, in addition to continuing to promote hand hygiene throughout the entire health-care system!

WHO will soon issue a new web page featuring a clear call to action for 5 May 2016, as well as materials focused on the prevention of surgical site infections to support this action. These will include an advocacy toolkit, new posters on integrating hand hygiene into all interventions experienced by surgical patients and information aimed at patients themselves.

You can start your planning by considering 1) what activities you might organize to raise awareness of the WHO 'My 5 Moments for Hand Hygiene' in all places where surgical procedures take place or surgical patients are cared for, no matter how big or small, urban or rural 2) how you will disseminate campaign messages issued by WHO to others, including posting features on how own web pages and on social media accounts, through newsletters, etc.

A critical aspect of 5 May activities is continuing to ask health facilities which have not yet signed up to the campaign to do so on this [web page](#).

#### **WHO Hand Hygiene Self-Assessment Framework Global Survey - closes 31 December!**

Hundreds of completed surveys have been submitted, including in the last few weeks! Be part of this exciting global report – you can find quotes from health facilities on the benefits of using the Hand Hygiene Self-Assessment Framework and an excellent new video from Professor Didier Pittet describing its use across the globe [here](#).

Submit your survey results online - find instructions here:

English - [http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/HHSFAF2015\\_EN.pdf](http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/HHSFAF2015_EN.pdf)

French - [http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/HHSAF2015\\_FR.pdf](http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/HHSAF2015_FR.pdf)

Spanish - [http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/HHSAF2015\\_ES.pdf](http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/HHSAF2015_ES.pdf)

or you can drop us an email us if you have any questions:

[info@whohandhygienesurvey.org](mailto:info@whohandhygienesurvey.org)

This invaluable facility-level tool takes approximately 1-2 hours to complete. And it only takes moments to enter your data into the confidential online survey system! Remember, we can accept any Hand Hygiene Self-Assessment Frameworks completed in your facility at any time in 2015 for this important global report, just enter those results now. We also ask that those who have started to enter data in the online survey system but have not completed it yet please do so now.

### **Events and training information**

The 16<sup>th</sup> Congress of the [International Federation of Infection Control](#) will take place from 16-19 March 2016 in Vienna.

Look out for the new 2016 Free WHO Teleclasses on infection prevention and control, hosted by Webber Training, on our web pages shortly.

Finally, at this holiday time of year the new WHO Global Unit on Infection Prevention and Control would like to **wish everyone peace and happiness and a healthy 2016.**

**Thank you** for your ongoing commitment and attention and we look forward to continuing to connect with you on SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands and many other IPC initiatives in the new year!

### **The WHO Infection Prevention and Control Global Unit Team**

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

Past information on SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands can be found in [previous newsletters](#) and on our [web pages](#).

Providing WHO information has to be balanced with available resources, both human and financial. WHO do their best to translate their most relevant tools and documents. Regretfully, we are not currently in a position to translate this SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands newsletter into French or Spanish. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you and hope that you will remain a valued reader of the newsletter.

La délivrance d'informations provenant de l'OMS dépend des ressources disponibles, à la fois humaines et financières. L'OMS, comprenant l'équipe "Un Soin Propre est un Soins plus sûr", fait de son mieux pour traduire ses outils et documents les plus importants. Malheureusement, nous ne sommes pas actuellement en mesure de traduire la lettre d'information mensuelle de SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands en français et en espagnol. Nous nous excusons pour ce désagrément et espérons que vous resterez un fidèle lecteur de la lettre d'information à l'avenir.

La información generada por la OMS, depende de los recursos humanos y económicos disponibles. El Programa, y el equipo de la iniciativa "Cuidado Limpio es Cuidado Seguro", realizan sus mejores esfuerzos para traducir el material y documentos de mayor importancia. Desafortunadamente, por el momento no contamos con la facilidad de traducir el boletín mensual SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands en francés o español. Le pedimos disculpas por cualquier inconveniente que podamos causarle, y esperamos seguir contando con su valiosa participación como lector de nuestro boletín.