

WHO SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands

SL: CYH Newsletter

Our call to action to health workers

16 February 2017

In this edition:

- [Start acting now – SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands \(SL:CYH\) 5 May 2017 – 'Fight antibiotic resistance: it's in your hands'](#)
- [New 5 May resources coming soon!](#)
- [How many are supporting WHO's SL:CYH campaign?](#)
- [WHO Antimicrobial Resistance Secretariat newsletter](#)
- [Events and training opportunities coming up](#)

We are delighted to welcome you to another issue of this WHO newsletter. Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) continues to pose a global threat. Its emergence results mostly from overuse of antimicrobials, both in humans and in animals, as well as suboptimal infection prevention and control (IPC). This public health concern is now recognized as a priority on the global health agenda. WHO calls on countries and health care facilities to strengthen IPC programmes based on the recently published [WHO Guidelines on core components](#) of infection prevention and control programmes at national and acute health care facility level, which include hand hygiene, to build resilient health services and combat AMR.

You can use this text to share the message with others now. It is critical that we continue to educate each other as leading health professionals and change agents, to raise awareness among senior managers and policy-makers, and also with our patients, the general public and the media.

WHO thanks you for all for your commitment and work in these past years on and around 5 May, to maintain a high profile on the global burden of avoidable infections.

Start acting now - SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands (SL:CYH) 5 May 2017 - 'Fight antibiotic resistance - it's in your hands'

Remember that you can use and highlight these specific calls to action to continue to combat antibiotic resistance in support of patient safety and global health. For information, these calls for actions have now also been published in French, Spanish and Arabic.

Calls for action - 5 May 2017

Health workers: “Clean your hands at the right times and stop the spread of antibiotic resistance.”

Hospital chief executive officers and administrators: “Lead a year-round IPC programme to protect your patients from resistant infections.”

Policy-makers: “Stop antibiotic resistance by making infection prevention and hand hygiene a national policy priority.”

IPC leaders: “Implement WHO’s core components of infection prevention, including hand hygiene, to combat antibiotic resistance.”

The WHO SL:CYH [campaign toolkit](#) can be used now to help you organize your own 5 May campaign and is also now available in [French](#).

New WHO 5 May resources coming soon!

An eye-catching 2017 campaign image and resources such as posters and videos will soon be available on the [5 May 2017 web page](#).

These resources will help you reach your target audiences for this year’s campaign. They save time and resources at local level and ensure that the campaign brand can reach far across the world.

How many are supporting WHO SL:CYH campaign?

As of February 2017, 19 217 health care facilities across 177 countries have been supporting the annual campaign and have registered commitment to taking on-going action. This is almost 250 health care facilities more than last year – it’s great that people still see the importance of hand hygiene action in combating avoidable infections, including those resistant to antibiotics. You can find out more about the countries with registered health care facilities [here](#).

A marker of success of a campaign is this visible commitment and the reach achieved. So it is important that you encourage colleagues in other health facilities to [join us](#) now, if they haven’t already.

WHO Antimicrobial Resistance Secretariat newsletter

The WHO Antimicrobial Resistance Secretariat issues a newsletter to update all stakeholders, partners and countries on the implementation of the Global action plan on AMR. To subscribe to the newsletter send an email to the Secretariat indicating your first name, last name and email address with the subject line ‘SUBSCRIBE TO MAILING LIST’. WHO Antimicrobial Resistance Secretariat email: whoamrsecretariat@who.int

Events and training opportunities coming up

- The European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ECCMID) is on 22-25 April 2017. Find more information [here](#).

- International Conference on Prevention and Infection Control (ICPIC) 2017 takes place in Geneva, 20-23 June. Visit the [website](#) to find out about the many opportunities available at this unique conference with world renowned leaders in infection control and antimicrobial resistance. [Abstract submission](#) is now open until 24 March.
- The 17th Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC) will take place in São Paulo, Brazil, on 27-30 September 2017. Further details can be found [here](#).

Thank you once again for your on-going support.

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 Soins Propres 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.