

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

### **SL: CYH Newsletter**

**16 June 2015**

#### *Our call to action to health workers on and around 5 May 2015 - updates*

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##### **A thank you message from Professor Didier Pittet**

“Thank you 5 313 169 times over for your support for 5 May 2015. This year was different, this year is different. 5 313 169 is the number of times users saw a message on Twitter featuring #safeHANDS. You all made this happen, whatever your activities were for 5 May, this drove a social movement, this year in particular through social media. There are too many people to thank in this unprecedented year of SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands. I didn’t believe that seven years after WHO started this campaign, and 10 years after the Clean Care is Safer Care programme was launched that there would still be so much energy around the world. This demonstrates just how important people believe hand hygiene is but also the importance of refreshing campaign approaches to be sure of continued engagement. A number of key organizations that actively promoted 5 May 2015 in support of WHO are still featured here [http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/SLCYH\\_5May2014/en/](http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/SLCYH_5May2014/en/)

Once again, I thank you, each and every one of you, on behalf of WHO. I urge you to stay involved in improving hand hygiene every day, you can find links to tools and suggestions in this edition of the newsletter.

You can also read my 5 May 2015 Webber Training [teleclass slides](#), which provide an overview summary of 5 May 2015 activities.”

##### **An update on the number of facilities that have signed up to SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands**

The numbers are up again! Since our last update on 5 May 2015, 163 more health-care facilities have registered commitment to the [campaign](#). There are now a total of 17 942 facilities which have signed up, with a facility in another new country coming on board in the last weeks – Gabon. Thank you again for everyone’s commitment.

Facilities signing up to the campaign is one way that the global profile of hand hygiene

action in health care can be maintained. Any health-care facility can sign up to the campaign at any time of the year.

### **An update on #safeHANDS – the social media reaction to 5 May 2015**

Even into June, photos featuring #safeHANDS have been posted from events around the world, over 6000 amazing photos are now featured. These photos can still be viewed [here](#) for a limited time.

### **A year of activities in support of SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands 5 May and ten years of the WHO Clean Care is Safer Care programme 2005-2015 – what you can still do**

- Take part in the WHO Global Hand Hygiene Self-Assessment Framework survey between now and 10 September. Find all details [here](#) if you haven't already read your facility's personal invitational email.
- Until 5 September, you can send information on your facility's [hand sanitizing relay](#) to WHO. Professor Pittet is leading on a global report of such activities.
- Use WHO hand hygiene improvement [tools](#) and promotional [videos](#) at any time to stimulate action all year round.

### **A reminder of the official hand hygiene pledges that continue to support country activities**

A powerful way to ensure hand hygiene continues to be a priority and embedded within health quality and patient safety initiatives is by leveraging the power of government mandates. Pledges from ministries of health since 2005, 139 in total, and recent statements issued by leading governments can be found [here](#).

### **A call from WHO for IPC deployments to West Africa**

Recently you will have received an email calling for IPC experts to join the deployments to West Africa, in support of the ongoing Ebola response and recovery work. You can apply [here](#).

### **Events and training information**

#ICPIC15 – this is the hashtag for the [ICPIC meeting](#) being held in Geneva this week (16-19 June). If you weren't able to attend, follow the conversation on social media, an excellent way to learn at distance from new infection prevention and antimicrobial resistance work. The Private Organizations for Patient Safety (POPS) Group facilitated by WHO is represented at the conference, showing the value of industry collaborating on consistent promotion of WHO hand hygiene messaging.

**Webber Teleclasses** – here is the list of upcoming relevant teleclasses that you can join:

[Using infection prevention and control resources wisely in Africa](#)

Speaker: Professor Shaheen Mehtar, Stellenbosch University, Cape Town, South Africa

16 June (FREE Teleclass - Broadcast live from the 2015 IPAC-Canada conference)

[Reducing catheter-associated urinary tract infections in resource-limited settings](#)

Speaker: Dr Gayani Tillekeratne, Duke University, and Dr Mariah Obino, Kisii Teaching and Referral Hospital, Kenya

25 June (FREE Teleclass)

[Healthcare infection control lessons learned from recent outbreaks](#)

Speaker: Dr Ryan Fagan, MD, MPH&TM, Medical Officer, CDC

28 June (FREE Teleclass - Broadcast live from the 2015 APIC conference)

[Natural ventilation in healthcare facilities](#)

Speaker: Linda L. Dickey, University of California Irvine Health, Dick Moeller, LEED AP  
Mazzetti, Russell N. Olmsted, Trinity Health

29 June (FREE Teleclass - Broadcast live from the 2015 APIC conference)

### Updates on other key WHO information

- Alcohol-based handrub has recently been placed on the WHO Essential Medicines List, find more information [here](#) under disinfectants and antiseptics.
- The WHO African Partnerships for Patient Safety programme has recently issued a five-year evaluation [report](#), with valuable learning for all included.
- Health worker Ebola infections in the three affected countries have been summarized in a newly published WHO [document](#).
- A WHO [global strategy](#) on people-centred care and integrated health services has recently been issued.

Thank you for your on-going commitment and attention.

**The WHO Clean Care is Safer Care Team**

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

WHO Clean Care is Safer Care

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

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 causar, y esperamos seguir contando con su valiosa participación como lector de nuestro boletín.