

WHO SAVE LIVES: Clean **Your** Hands

SL: CYH Newsletter

13 February 2014

Dear Colleagues,

With only three months to go, 5 May is fast approaching! This month's newsletter introduces more information on the activities proposed for this year's annual focus: **the role of hand hygiene in combating antimicrobial resistance (AMR)** and aims to support you in organizing your plans and actions.

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1. 5 May 2014 – call for action

A reminder, the goal for 5 May 2014:

- To highlight the role of hand hygiene in combatting AMR by making sure the WHO 5 Moments are core to protecting patients from resistant pathogens.
- To emphasize the problem of AMR that can arise from patient care interventions.

Your one-stop shop to find all WHO 5 May information, including that contained in this newsletter, can be found [here](#).

On this new, dedicated web page WHO has now launched:

- Updated information outlining all of the tools and activities WHO is promoting (as featured in last month's newsletter).
- A new activities 'prompt' list to guide you on planning, acting and communicating in support of 5 May. For example, the planning section prompts are:
 - Prepare a (local) plan with deadlines for organizing activities/messages leading up to 5 May and plan to visit www.who.int/gpsc/5may/en regularly for updates and to access new documents and tools issued by WHO.
 - Share the (local) plan with all those who need to approve it and/or will be involved in the activities.
 - Plan dates to highlight results of 5 May activities, including from the WHO surveys and recommended 'contamination' exercises in your area.

- More detail on how to conduct some local activities as outlined in January's newsletter:
 - Taking cultures of health-care worker hands - to highlight hand contamination and the importance of hand hygiene action.
 - Contaminating the environment with glow powder to highlight where it has spread to over time, in the environment and on staff hands – again illustrating the power of the WHO 5 Moments as a barrier to stop the spread of organisms to patients and staff.

The focus for you this month is ***'Get ready to participate in the WHO surveys in March!'***

In line with the theme of 5 May 2014, WHO will invite health-care facilities to participate in:

1. A WHO Global Laboratory-based Survey on MULTIDRUG-RESISTANT ORGANISMS (MDROs) in Health Care.
 - This is a global prevalence survey on the burden of MDROs from clinical specimens routinely submitted to participating laboratories for inpatients. The survey is based on the routine collection of blood and urine (MSU & CSU) culture specimens and will be focused on five selected key MDROs pathogens:
 - Methicillin-resistant *Staph.aureus* (MRSA)
 - Vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE)
 - Extended-spectrum β -lactamase (ESBL) producing Gram negatives
 - Carbapenem Resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE), and
 - Multi-resistant *Acinetobacter* spp (MRAB).
 - Laboratories will be asked to report the first isolate from inpatients over one continuous week (7days) any time from 1-23 March 2014.
 - Data will be returned to WHO through a single electronic form, provided by WHO, by 31 March.
2. A WHO Global Prevalence Survey on the use of SURGICAL ANTIBIOTIC PROPHYLAXIS.
 - This survey is aimed at obtaining a snapshot of the prescribing of antibiotic prophylaxis, from patient records, in surgical wards in a wide range of acute health-care facilities.
 - Data collection will be requested on *one day only* (ideally on a *Wednesday* or a *Thursday*) between 12 and 31 March 2014, on all patients who have undergone *surgery* in the *three previous days*, prior to the survey day.
 - Any acute health-care facility can participate, with the option of choosing any number of general surgery and/or gynaecology and obstetrics wards.
 - Data will be returned to WHO through an electronic database, provided by WHO, by 7 April.

Important information concerning both surveys:

- Complete instructions will be available on the [WHO web site](#) in the next 10 days.

- At the beginning of March, health-care settings participating in **SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands** will receive invitations to participate through an online system allowing individual protected access.
- The surveys are quite simple to complete and will not be very time-consuming.
- We are keen to receive results for both surveys from your health-care facility! If this seems unfeasible, please do prioritize to undertake one of the two.
- WHO will be the only recipient of the data and commits to keeping individual facility names and results strictly confidential. Results will be summarized by country and issued on 5 May 2014.
- It is crucial that you begin planning NOW to undertake these surveys!

Please promote the WHO surveys and make sure those you talk to and who want to take part are registered for **SL:CYH**.

Enquiries on the surveys and other 5 May activities can be submitted to savelives@who.int.

More information on the other 5 May tools will be featured in next month's newsletter.

Social Media plans:

- While WHO prepares its formal social media plans to support 5 May, please get ready to issue your messages based on information on the **SL:CYHs** web pages and in this newsletter – this is another way of generating interest and building our global movement for hand hygiene.
- Also follow @DidierPittet on Twitter! Professor Pittet has already tweeted 5 May messages to gather momentum, so please support these by responding with your own plans or retweeting.

2. **SL:CYH registrations**

Remember our registration goal in 2014: to have at least one registered facility in each country and therefore to have entire WHO regions with all countries having registered facilities.

- Check out the [list of registered and non-registered countries](#) regularly to keep motivated on getting those who you talk to sign up for the campaign.
- Please make every possible effort to share the registration call to action with colleagues. You can share this newsletter or highlight the web link of where to register when giving presentations – use the global map available on the registrations web page.

3. Working in collaboration

The team at WHO has been contacting many international and national organizations and

has received confirmations that they will spread the messages for **SL:CHYs** 5 May 2014 – thank you to everyone.

- One example is the infection prevention and control society in New Zealand which is eager to help engage those facilities in the Pacific Islands who have not yet registered for the campaign.
- Another example is the International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC), which each year promotes the campaign to the many societies that are part of their group.
- Next, the World Alliance Against Antibiotic Resistance has disseminated key messages to its members across the world.
- A number of international journals are also featuring a [5 May advertisement](#) that is also available for all to use on their [web pages](#).
- Lastly, the ‘Turn Africa Orange’ campaign supported by ICAN (see January newsletter), is extremely active and is reaching many in this continent. We thank all those who are working hard to engage health-care facilities across this region and we will be tracking their progress in getting new registrations!
- And for interest, our Private Organizations for Patient Safety (POPS) collaborative is also supporting 5 May; you may find a number of companies actively promoting and supporting the same messages. Further information on this initiative and those involved can be found [here](#).

If you are supporting 5 May, remember to send your web link where information is featured to savelives@who.int and information will be gathered to list these links on the WHO web pages and to show examples during Professor Pittet’s 5 May global teleclass.

More ‘working in collaboration’ updates will be featured next month.

4. News and quick links

- In January, Professor Didier Pittet visited Malaysia, Indonesia and Viet Nam to attend a number of patient safety and infection prevention events. The energy felt from the hundreds of people who attended was said to be incredible and it helped to revitalize long-term commitment.
- WHO **SL:CYHs** information and hand hygiene tools can be found [here](#).
 - Building on the two WHO tools highlighted last month, the Hand Hygiene Self-Assessment Framework and the WHO Guide to Implementation, look now at the [action plans](#) created to support progress against the Framework depending on whether your score is basic, intermediate or advanced.
- Translated WHO improvement tools also exist in French, Spanish and Russian on the WHO web pages - thank you for promoting these. Other languages, thanks to local support for translations, are available [here](#).

5. Events and training

Webber Teleclasses, many featuring the topic of hand hygiene, from January and February 2014 [can be accessed here](#) if you didn't have a chance to hear them live, including the first free WHO teleclass for 2014 presented by Dr Walter Zingg on "Innovation and implementation of strategic approaches to reduce catheter-related bacteraemia: the results of a European multicentre study (PROHIBIT)".

You can access the 2014 Free WHO Teleclass Series on Infection Control Agenda [at this link](#).

You can still register to attend the [IFIC2014 congress](#) in Malta in March. This is a very successful international conference, where this year WHO will have sessions on hand hygiene and the burden and prevention of surgical site infections.

Thank you for tuning in and for sharing this newsletter, this campaign cannot exist without you!

The WHO Clean Care is Safer Care Team

[Previous SL:CYHs newsletters](#) - share with others & track your progress.

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 Soin Propre est un Soin 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.