

## WHO Infection Prevention and Control Global Newsletter



4 May 2023

### News from WHO headquarters

#### World Hand Hygiene Day, 5 May 2023

World Hand Hygiene Day (WHHD) 2023 has arrived! We hope you have been engaging with the campaign during the lead up to 5 May and making use of the resources on the [campaign webpage](#).

We have previously shared with you an overview of the assets available in 6 UN languages, including the 2023 image and logo, campaign video, target audience-specific posters and social media tiles – all available for download. The [campaign guide](#) is available for partners, with assets and ideas about how to engage with the campaign, including holding a hand hygiene Café and using the poster maker to showcase your campaign on social media (hashtags: #HandHygiene and #CleanHands).

A video message from the WHO Director General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, will also be released [here](#) on 5 May to reinforce the importance of continuing our efforts to prioritize hand hygiene improvement.

The WHO IPC Hub is also pleased to share with you the following additional new products:

- **A summary of WHO hand hygiene research agenda priorities.** The first ever WHO research agenda on hand hygiene in health care is now available! It was developed over the last two years through a consultative process including a large group of experts and implementers from around the world, using a rigorous methodology. The main goal of setting an evidence- and expert consensus-based research agenda on hand hygiene is to

accelerate knowledge generation about the best interventions to improve practices. In turn, this will improve quality of care and patient outcomes and reduce the risk of health care-associated infections and antimicrobial resistance. The summary issued on 5 May 2023 provides guidance on the highest priorities for hand hygiene research. This research agenda can be a useful tool for researchers and donors to direct their investments to areas of hand hygiene research that still have significant gaps. Increasing the evidence and its quality in the field of hand hygiene improvement strategies will also be extremely beneficial to direct policy makers and implementers towards the most effective and cost-effective interventions. Ultimately, this research agenda will contribute to improving compliance with hand hygiene and safeguarding patient safety. This document can be accessed both on the [IPC landing page](#) as well as the landing page for [hand hygiene](#).

- **A new webpage on ‘Basic IPC and primary care’** will be published with new and existing resources! It can be accessed from the [IPC landing page](#).
- **New IPC assessment tool for primary care facilities.** The ‘*Assessment tool on infection prevention and control minimum requirements for primary health care facilities*’ will assist primary care facilities to assess their level of implementation of the WHO minimum requirements for IPC and to identify those that still need to be achieved or improved. This tool will be accessible on the newly launched webpage for basic IPC and primary care.
- **Prevention of surgical site infection package for primary care settings.** A practical and intuitive infographic and inventory document has been created to facilitate the access to all available WHO resources on the prevention of surgical site infection that can be most useful in primary care settings.
- **Testing of an early access version of the WHO “5 Moments: The Game”.** This is a compassionate serious game designed to keep patients and health workers safe by improving hand hygiene practices. It balances the fun, engaging and enlightening side of gaming with the scientific and theoretical approaches to hand hygiene improvement that will contribute to changes in health worker behaviour in the real world. The game is set in the International Alien Hospital two hundred years in the future. Players must look after their alien patients and keep earth safe by performing hand hygiene at the right moments. The Game is still under development, and on 5 May three modules will be ready for game-play testing among a selected community of users.

Don’t forget to join us for the [WHO annual webinar on 5 May](#) to be part of a conversation about the importance of hand hygiene and IPC, with a particular focus on the actions and roles of civil society organizations to accelerate change at local, national and international levels. Speakers will include Prof. Didier Pittet of the Geneva University Hospitals and the Senior advisor to the WHHD campaign, and representatives of several civil society organizations, including International Confederation of Midwives, Uganda National Health Consumers' Organization, International Council of Nurses, World Medical Association and WaterAid.

On 5 May 2023 (19:30 CET), also attend the Webber Training **special lecture for 5 May**; speakers will be Prof. Didier Pittet, (University of Geneva, Switzerland) and Dr Benedetta Allegranzi (IPC Hub, WHO HQ). There is still time to [register](#) for this teleclass!



World Health Organization

As we celebrate 15 years of the SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands campaign, WHO would like to thank all our partners for their continued efforts to promote WHHD and accelerate progress at achieving effective hand hygiene at point of care!

