



### Hand Hygiene Compliance

Research indicates that hand hygiene reduces the risk of healthcare-associated infections, hospital stays and readmissions. It is fundamental to all our patient safety initiatives, and a cornerstone of our infection control and prevention efforts at Halton Healthcare Services. Hand Hygiene will continue to be a key priority of all our patient safety and quality initiatives.

#### Compliance Rates

Hospitals across Ontario are required to audit and report their hand hygiene compliance rates annually on two indicators, the *Before Initial Patient or Patient Environment Contact*, and, *After Patient or Patient Environment Contact*.

	Compliance Rates					
	BEFORE initial patient or patient environment contact			AFTER initial patient or patient environment contact		
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
GH	33.4%	39.9%	48.6%	58.6%	70.8%	69.1%
MDH	67.2%	46.9%	62.3%	86.4%	71.4%	80.2%
OTMH	43.3%	51.3%	58.9%	55.3%	75.5%	77.5%
HHS Avg.	46.0%	48.4%	57.4%	61.4%	73.8%	76.5%

#### Improving Hand Hygiene at HHS

Over the past number of years HHS has focused on improving hand hygiene among our healthcare professionals, support staff, volunteers, patients and visitors at HHS hospitals. These are just a few of HHS' initiatives:

- Improvements have been made to hand hygiene products including increasing the number of strategically located hand hygiene dispensers at the point of care for easier accessibility and providing centrally locating hand cream dispensers to support care provider skin integrity
- HHS follows the Ministry's Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee's best practice guidelines and have integrated hand hygiene into our practices, policies and procedures.
- In 2008, HHS actively participated in the Clean Hands Saves Lives communication campaign aimed at educating patients and visitors about the important role they play in infection prevention.

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# Patient Safety Indicators



Halton Healthcare

- Additionally, HHS implemented the Ontario Just Clean Your Hands campaign , an evidence-based multifaceted initiative which trains healthcare providers how to clean their hands “the right way” and “at the right times” before, during and after patient care process. [Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care](#).
- Completion of the “Just Clean Your Hands- Your 4 Moments for Hand Hygiene” e-learning module is a mandatory requirement for new employees and for annual re-training sessions
- Improving hand hygiene compliance continues to be a corporate patient safety priority and is included in the HHS [Quality Improvement Plan](#).
- We continue to observe and audit our hand hygiene practices regularly, review and communicate the findings to our staff and physicians and look for ways to improve.