

THE ADVISOR



MONTHLY COMPLIANCE COMMUNICATOR

CLEAN HANDS: WHAT'S YOUR EXCUSE?

A recent study by the CDC showed that some healthcare providers practice hand hygiene less than half of the times they should. Why do they fall short on this important act for reducing the spread of potentially deadly germs to themselves and others? An investigation reported in the CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) asked healthcare providers that question and received the following answers:

- Handwashing agents cause irritation and dryness
- Sinks are inconveniently located/shortage of sinks
- Lack of soap and paper towels
- Often too busy/insufficient time
- Understaffing/overcrowding
- Patient needs take priority
- Hand hygiene interferes with health-care worker relationships with patients
- Low risk of acquiring infection from patients
- Wearing of gloves/beliefs that glove use obviates the need for hand hygiene
- Lack of knowledge of guidelines/protocols
- Not thinking about it/forgetfulness
- No role model from colleagues or superiors
- Skepticism regarding the value of hand hygiene
- Disagreement with the recommendations

Continued on page 2

IN THIS ISSUE

Clean Hands: What's Your Excuse?

PAGE 1 - 2

Protect Yourself

PAGE 3

Pictogram Contest

PAGE 3

Getting to Know Your TMC Employees

PAGE 4

It's Your Call

PAGE 4

Sign-in sheet

PAGE 5

[CLICK HERE TO](#)
START YOUR TRAINING TODAY!

HIPAA OSHA INFECTION CONTROL BUSINESS ASSOCIATES





CLEAN HANDS: WHAT'S YOUR EXCUSE?

Continued from page 1

HOW DO YOU PROMOTE A CLEAN HANDS MINDSET?

Hand hygiene education and training is important for everyone. The [CDC website](#) is a great resource for current recommendations and protocols for proper hand hygiene for healthcare.

The CDC guidelines provides information on:

- Indications for handwashing and hand antisepsis
- Hand hygiene technique
- Surgical hand antisepsis
- Selection of hand hygiene agents
- Skin care
- Other aspects of hand hygiene

A FEW MORE TIPS:

It's important for healthcare providers to remember that they should be cleaning their hands every time:

- Before eating
- Before and after having direct contact with a patient's intact skin (taking a pulse or blood pressure, performing physical examinations, lifting the patient in bed)
- After contact with blood, body fluids or excretions, mucous membranes, non-intact skin, or wound dressings
- After contact with inanimate objects (including medical equipment) in the immediate vicinity of the patient
- When hands will be moving from a contaminated-body site to a clean-body site during patient care
- After glove removal
- After using the restroom

Proper use, care and disposal of your PPE can help reduce your contact with contaminants, but it is not a substitute for hand hygiene.

Lotions and creams can prevent and decrease skin dryness that happens from frequent hand washing. Be sure to use products that have been recommended by the manufacturer of the gloves your practice uses. Oil-based products can break down glove materials and can also interfere with the efficacy of hand sanitizing products.

Remember that fingernails and jewelry can impede proper hand hygiene. Long fingernails and artificial nails are a haven for germs. Rings and other jewelry can prevent proper hand hygiene which can result in increased spread of potentially deadly germs.

Keep a variety of approved hand hygiene products available for staff. Don't forget to check their expiration dates!

Make proper hand hygiene a part of your unwavering work routine. Take the time, do it right and be a mentor for others.

MAKE IMPROPER HAND HYGIENE INEXCUSABLE.

[CLICK HERE TO](#)

START YOUR TRAINING TODAY!

HIPAA OSHA INFECTION CONTROL BUSINESS ASSOCIATES

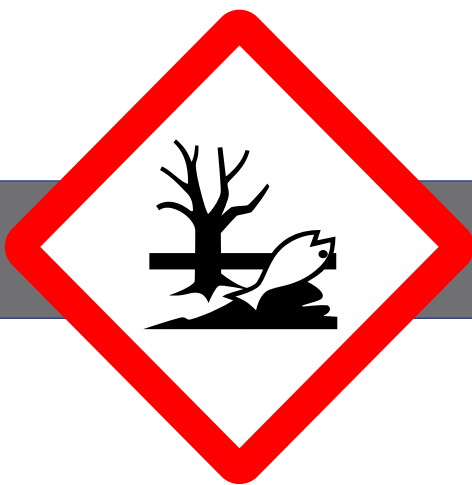




PROTECT YOURSELF

When browsing the Internet, our computers create little files called cookies to keep track of our preferences. Most of us enjoy the benefits of “remember me” that many sites provide. These cookies are great but can potentially be misused by companies trying to gather information about your surfing habits. Users will want to balance between their preferences for privacy and the benefits provided by cookies. Here are some ways that users can manage how their cookies are used by their browsers:

1. Modern browsers support private or incognito browsing. In this mode, existing cookies are not accessible and any new cookies are deleted upon exit.
2. Browsers support the ability to manage or delete cookies. This allows you to manually configure how cookies are retained, blocked, and aged out.
3. There are add-ons that can be added to your browser that provides granular control.



What does this pictogram stand for?

Is everyone in your practice current on the United Nations Globally Harmonized System of pictograms that communicate hazardous chemicals? We’ve enjoyed receiving all of the Fun with GHS entries, but we’re almost at the end of the gift card giveaway. Next month is your last chance to identify a selected GHS pictogram and enter to win the drawing. This is also when we will have our big end of the year drawing for the grand prize! [Click here](#) to enter by November 30th for your chance to win [this month!](#)

Last month our pictogram was compressed gases. Many got it right, but we had to pick only one winner and it was Rona L. of North Carolina. Congratulations Rona!

[CLICK HERE TO ENTER](#)

[CLICK HERE TO](#)
START YOUR TRAINING TODAY!

HIPAA OSHA INFECTION CONTROL BUSINESS ASSOCIATES



TMC COMPLIANCE

GETTING TO KNOW TMC EMPLOYEES

This month we are pleased to introduce you to Nancy Clark, one of our TMC Consultants. Nancy brings over thirty years of experience as a registered nurse to TMC. Her experience in the inpatient arena and surgical environment providing direct patient care as a charge nurse gives her the perfect qualifications to deliver training on bloodborne pathogens, hazard communications, and other safety issues. Prior to joining TMC in 2011, Nancy worked as a charge nurse in a surgical care unit and knows first-hand how important infection control and employee safety is in the work environment.



1. What is your must-have or go-to morning beverage? [Coffee](#)
2. What is the most fun or unusual item you keep on your desk?
[Bead bracket my daughter made me](#)
3. What is the strangest or most fun job you've ever had?
[Swim team coach](#)
4. How far away from home is the farthest away you've ever been?
[England](#)
5. What is your go-to item that you most often bring to potlucks?
[Crock pot barbecue meat balls](#)
6. Where is your favorite place to listen to music?
[At home](#)
7. Do you have any phobias? [Heights](#)
8. What is the most daring thing you've ever done?
[Diving off of a high dive platform, which is funny considering I don't like heights!](#)
9. Do you collect anything? [Christmas ornaments](#)
10. Do you (or would you) sing at Karaoke night? [No.](#)
11. Are you related (even distantly) to anyone famous? [No.](#)
12. What is your favorite holiday? [Christmas](#)
13. What was the last non-work-related thing you read?
[The Good Daughter](#)
14. Is your glass half-empty or half-full? [Half full](#)

IT'S YOUR CALL

OSHA Situation:

Our office hired a clinical worker who does not have proof of Hepatitis B 3 shot series. Can we just provide a pre-employment titer?

HIPAA Situation:

Our office received a Power of Attorney from a lady who claims to be a patient's niece. However, the patient's son says that his mother's signature was forged. How can we verify whether the Power of Attorney is legitimate before we disclose any information?

[CLICK HERE FOR THE ANSWERS](#)

[CLICK HERE TO](#)
START YOUR TRAINING TODAY!

HIPAA OSHA INFECTION CONTROL BUSINESS ASSOCIATES



THE ADVISOR



MONTHLY COMPLIANCE COMMUNICATOR

SIGNATURE

PRINT

DATE

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____
21. _____
22. _____
23. _____
24. _____
25. _____

INSTRUCTIONS

Print and post newsletter in office for staff review. Each member should sign this form when completed. Keep on file as proof of training on these topics.

IN THIS ISSUE

Clean Hands: What's Your Excuse?

PAGE 1 - 2

Protect Yourself

PAGE 3

Pictogram Contest

PAGE 3

Getting to Know Your TMC Employees

PAGE 4

It's Your Call

PAGE 4

Sign-in sheet

PAGE 5