



Accreditation: ROP of the Week

Required Organizational Practice: Hand-Hygiene Compliance

WHAT IS HAND-HYGIENE COMPLIANCE?

- Hand-hygiene is the single **most important practice to reduce healthcare associated infections and the transmission of microorganisms in healthcare**. Hand-hygiene audits allow us to monitor compliance with hand hygiene protocols, improve education and implement unit or program-based quality improvements.

Hand-hygiene is the single most important way to reduce healthcare associated infections.

AT HEALTH PEI:

- There is a provincial **Hand Hygiene Policy** that was updated in the fall 2021. The policy can be found on the Policy Document Management System (PDMS/MedWorxx).
- **Direct observational audits** of hand-hygiene practices are completed in various programs/areas. Staff are trained to complete observational audits using a standardized tool.
- Hand-hygiene compliance audit results are shared with staff, physicians, volunteers and the public.
- Audit results are **reviewed by program/area managers, Infection Prevention and Control staff and Quality Improvement Teams** with recommendations being identified and implemented as needed to improve hand-hygiene practices.

Direct observational audits measure compliance with the *Four Moments for Hand Hygiene*

Questions Accreditation Canada Surveyors May Ask Staff:

Why do we need to audit hand-hygiene compliance?

When was a hand-hygiene audit last completed in your area? Where can I find your audit results?