

WHO SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands
SL: CYH Newsletter
Our call to action to health workers
1 May 2018



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We are now on the final count-down to 5 May 2018, the global annual hand hygiene campaign day! We know that most of you will have a plan to promote hand hygiene for preventing sepsis in health care. Remember, the campaign is one important part of influencing the behaviour of each and every health worker to achieve improved, sustained hand hygiene action and patient and health worker safety. Hand hygiene is at the core of effective infection prevention and control (IPC) practices, which every health care facility should be aiming for. Without your commitment, WHO cannot fulfil the campaign goal. Once again, we kindly ask all of you to take action to promote the united message: “It’s in your hands – prevent sepsis in health care”.

Use the wording from Professor Didier Pittet, in our [last newsletter](#), to motivate your audiences; use the WHO campaign [advocacy video](#) to show at your events. These are just some of the helpful resources available to you!

WHO 5 May 2018 and other hand hygiene, IPC and sepsis resources for you

The campaign [main page](#) is constantly being updated. Use all the resources hosted here in your campaign execution in the coming weeks – we know many of you celebrate hand hygiene day both on and around 5 May. This is what is now available:

- Posters – a main, generic poster and five specific posters each targeting a specific group (with low-resolution posters also available for ease of download);
- Banner – a banner can be used on your web or social media pages;
- Photograph promotional board – get ready to use this now – see more information below;
- 5 May 2018 advocacy slides – this slide set gives you some background to this year’s campaign and shows all the above-mentioned products. Use this if your colleagues are interested in leading a campaign at their health facilities.
- A visual/infographic in a range of sizes – use this when you are presenting to raise awareness on preventing sepsis. It covers what sepsis is, how important sepsis is as a public health issue, who is at risk, and **how to prevent sepsis**,

providing clear messages primarily to help health workers promote and implement sepsis prevention both in communities and health care settings, and to engage other audiences over time.

The resources that have been translated into other WHO languages can be found through the link featured [here](#) and a page featuring locally adapted hand hygiene posters, including for the 5 May 2018 campaign, can be found [here](#).

There is also a [promotional video](#) available from the WHO Collaborating Centre at the University Hospitals, Geneva. This video, in English and French, visually describes why sepsis is an important health care issue and how everyone can play a role in infection and sepsis prevention.

Also, remember that you can use the [tools and resources](#) produced previously, in the context of the WHO hand hygiene multimodal improvement strategy to improve, not just promote, hand hygiene in your health facility. We are delighted to announce that this week we will issue an updated version of WHO slides for Education Sessions for Trainers, Observers and Health-care Workers.

Use any of the WHO tools to achieve improvement throughout the year, well beyond 5 May.

To help others understand sepsis, during your 5 May activities and well beyond, you can access the following WHO resources:

- The WHO [factsheet](#) on sepsis – this factsheet will help people to better understand the overall picture of sepsis and can be the basis of communications for dissemination;
- Sepsis as a WHO [health topic](#) – sepsis has been recognized as a “health topic” on the WHO website. The WHO health topic page will guide people in understanding the various WHO programmes of work and help deepen knowledge and awareness;
- A new, short [animation video](#) outlining what sepsis is, who is at risk and how it can be prevented in the community and health care settings;
- The [report](#) of the WHO Sepsis Technical Expert Meeting held on 15-16 January 2018 – here you can find the priorities for action to tackle sepsis at country and international levels, identified by WHO and international experts.

This week, we are also launching the following **new** key [IPC resources](#):

- “Improving IPC at the health facility level - interim practical manual supporting implementation of the WHO guidelines on the core components of IPC programmes” – similar to the *national* interim [practical manual](#), this document helps successful IPC implementation at the *facility* level, in practical ways, and includes special focus on settings with limited resources;
- “Infection Prevention and Control Assessment Framework” - a systematic tool tested in 181 hospitals worldwide and based on the WHO IPC core components that can provide assessment of the IPC programme and activities within a health care facility, at baseline and follow-up to document progress over time and facilitate improvement;

- eLearning version of the WHO “Leadership and programme management in IPC” [training module](#) – designed to support implementation of the “WHO guidelines on core components of IPC programmes at the national and acute health care facility level”, as part of a multifaceted approach to capacity-building.

WHO social media plans: #handhygiene and #sepsis

Join WHO on social media by using the hashtags #handhygiene and #sepsis, by retweeting @WHO messages around 5 May, and “liking” Facebook posts, etc. Print out the photograph promotional [board](#); write your name, organization and country; take a selfie with it and post it on your social media platform using the #s. You can also share photos on a dedicated [web site](#) managed by Professor Didier Pittet. Finally, you can also use the social media [image](#) available from WHO for your social media postings.

And remember, if your organization features a web link to the WHO campaign, WHO will feature it on the dedicated acknowledgements [web page](#)! Just pass it on to us.

Health care facility registrations increasing!

As of May 2018, 20 935 health facilities across 180 countries had registered their commitment to the campaign – new to join us is Sao Tome and Principe. This means even more health workers are taking ongoing action to improve hand hygiene and prevent HAI. You can find out more about the countries with registered health care facilities [here](#). Any health facility can sign up to the campaign at any time of the year. Please continue to encourage any facilities you know that have not joined to [register](#) today!

Free teleclass on 3 May 2018

WHO Free Webber Teleclass: 2.30–3.30pm CET, 3 May (Thurs) – a special lecture outlining the 5 May 2018 campaign will be delivered on 3 May by Dr Benedetta Allegranzi and Professor Didier Pittet. Register [here](#).

Thank you for supporting IPC and hand hygiene in health care! All of you are contributing to the campaign, reaching almost all the countries of the world, whatever language you speak. Be proud of yourself and be a champion of promoting hand hygiene to prevent sepsis in health care – it’s in your hands!

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Past information on SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands can be found in [previous newsletters](#) and on our [web pages](#).

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.