

## WHO SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands

**SL: CYH Newsletter**  
**15 January 2014**

**Dear Colleagues,**

First of all, very best wishes for 2014! We wish you, your families and your patients peace, health and happiness throughout this year!

The coming months will see progress in our steps towards 5 May 2014! The focus this year is very special and provides a broader perspective: **the role of hand hygiene in combating antimicrobial resistance (AMR)**. The WHO call to action this year is *No action today; no cure tomorrow – make sure the WHO 5 Moments are part of protecting your patients from resistant germs*.

Our team will progressively deliver support to help you focus on this topic and support your plans for 5 May activities and celebrations! We encourage you to look out for the next **SL: CYH** Newsletters, to keep checking our web site and to refer to national/sub-national campaigns, if any, in your country, to feed into your 5 May plans.

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### **1. 5 May 2014 – call for action**

Make sure 2-5 May is in your diaries for this year's celebration of hand hygiene and AMR activity. Any one of these days will be ideal for focusing your local action on hand hygiene promotion and celebrations in support of the **SL: CYH** campaign.

The goal for 2014:

- To highlight the role of hand hygiene in combatting AMR by making sure the WHO 5 Moments are core to protecting patients from resistant pathogens.
- To emphasize the problem of AMR that can arise from patient care interventions.

WHO plans to launch:

- A Global Prevalence Survey (and related protocol) on Multidrug- Resistant Organisms (MDROs) – WHO will invite health-care facilities worldwide to submit routine laboratory data from *inpatient* clinical blood and urine specimens related to

five selected key multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) – Launch in February 2014, execution during one week in March 2014.

- A Point Prevalence Global Survey (and related protocol) on use of Surgical Antibiotic Prophylaxis (SAP). WHO will invite health-care facilities worldwide to submit data on SAP in surgical patients on a given day – Launch in February 2014, execution between between 15 and 31 March.
- A new poster highlighting the role of hand hygiene to combat AMR – issue in February.
- A new poster featuring the importance of Moment 5 linked to environment contamination by MDROs – issue in March.
- A new diagram to show 5 Moments in relation to risk assessment for catheter-associated urinary tract infection – issue in April.
- A new screensaver – issue end of April 2014 - for you to launch as part of your activities on or around 5 May.
- Tips for patients on hand hygiene (emphasis on Moments 1 and 2) and MDROs transmission and on appropriate antibiotic use – issue in April.
- A summary of the scientific literature on the role of hand hygiene to reduce transmission of MDROs and related HAI.

We also propose the following ideas for you to organize events and activities on or around 5 May 2014 to emphasize the role of health-care workers' hands in the spread of AMR:

- Cultures of health-care worker hands - to highlight hand contamination and the importance of hand hygiene action.
- Contamination of the environment with glow powder to highlight where it has spread to over time, in the environment and on staff hands – again this illustrates the power of the WHO 5 Moments as a barrier to stop the spread of organisms to patients and staff.
- A social media plan and messages.

More information to come in forthcoming newsletters!

We ask that, in your commitment to 5 May, you:

- Promote and participate in the surveys issued by WHO.
- Promote registrations to other hospitals not yet registered by forwarding the [SL: CYHs Newsletter](#) to them.
- Use WHO messages from the Newsletter, Twitter, Facebook to inform social media messaging and other communications.
- Put the WHO [SL: CYHs](#) link on your web pages and share this webpage with WHO so

it can be acknowledged.

- Use and adapt the tools, including the new ones for 2014 provided by WHO, i.e. posters, screensaver, documents.
- Create your own materials in line with the WHO call to action/messages.
- Promote the use of the hand/environment culture/contamination exercises.

## 2. **SL: CYH** registrations

Our registration goal in 2014:

- Have at least one registered facility in each country and have entire WHO regions where all countries have registered facilities.

### [List of countries with no registered facilities](#)

- There are only a few countries left in each region, for example in the Americas, only Barbados, Dominica, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines need to get registrations to complete this region. In the Eastern Mediterranean Region, only South Sudan remains free of registrations. In the Western Pacific Region, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau and Samoa are left to complete this region. Can you influence people in these countries to register?
- Please make every possible effort to share the registration call to action with colleagues whose health-care facilities are not yet registered; you can share this newsletter or highlight registering when talking to people or when presenting.

The plan to 'Turn Africa Orange' is progressing well. Led by the Infection Control Africa Network (ICAN) this means that in support of 5 May, this group will target health-care facilities in order to have Africa represented as orange on the global **SL: CYHs** map (orange signifies 14-15 health-care facilities registered within a country). They will also outline the support that comes with being part of **SL: CYHs** to facilities. This is an excellent initiative and we look forward to sharing their updates with you.

## 3. Working in collaboration

- WHO has held a number of GoToMeeting sessions with [CleanHandsNet](#) (CHN) leads from across the world. Each year this group is committed to actively supporting 5 May and sharing their ideas – thank you.
- WHO regional offices including AMR experts – Discussions have taken place with experts at WHO Headquarters as well as in other WHO regional offices to ensure 5 May activities tie in with other AMR work – this is important to ensure consistent messages and is also a great opportunity for collaborative working.

#### 4. News and quick links

- WHO **SL**: CYHs information and hand hygiene tools - [can be found here](#).
- Plan to re(use) the WHO Hand Hygiene Self-Assessment Framework and the WHO Guide to Implementation – great tools that will help you progress along the hand hygiene continuum, which can be demonstrated through repeated use of the Framework.
- As well as the European Hand Hygiene Excellence Awards, the Latin American Hand Hygiene Excellence Awards are [calling for applications](#). We encourage those in that region to [apply now](#). It is an excellent way to demonstrate your commitment to progressing along the hand hygiene improvement continuum.
- Follow WHO on Facebook and/or Twitter – World Health Organization and @WHO respectfully. Let's aim to get #handhygiene trending on 5 May 2014 – use your social media voice to keep messages viral, global and influential.

#### 5. Events and training

Webber Teleclasses for January 2014

- January 16 '[Hand Hygiene Over the Decade: 2004-2014](#)' Dr Elaine Larson, Columbia University, New York (Teleclass sponsored by GOJO).
- January 21 (FREE British Teleclass) '[Human Error Theory – Can it help us understand and minimize the incidence and impact of outbreaks?](#)' Dr Evonne Curran, Glasgow University, Scotland.
- January 29 (FREE WHO Teleclass Europe) '[Innovation and Implementation Strategic Approaches to reduce Catheter-Related Bacteraemia: The Results of a European Multicentre Study \(PROHBIT\)](#)' Dr Walter Zingg, University of Geneva Hospitals, Switzerland. (Teleclass sponsored by WHO Clean Care is Safer Care).
- January 30 '[Universal MRSA Screening – is it worthwhile, and for whom?](#)' Dr Barry Cookson, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and University College London.

WHO African Partnerships for Patient Safety (APPS) hosts [free technical webinars](#) for anyone interested in patient safety improvement using hospital-to-hospital partnerships, including, but not exclusively, in the African Region.

The International Federation of Infection Control will be holding their annual congress focused on “Understanding behaviour; Implementing change” on 12-15 March in Malta. [You can still register to attend this informative conference](#).

The European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) conference is from 10-13 May in Barcelona, [find information here](#).

**Thank you for tuning in and for sharing this newsletter, this campaign cannot exist without you!**

## **WHO Clean Care is Safer Care Team**

Previous **SL: CYHs** newsletters <http://www.who.int/gpsc/news/en/index.html> - share with others & track your progress.

WHO Clean Care is Safer Care

<http://www.who.int/gpsc/en/>

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.