

National Board of Health and Welfare

Code of Statutes

Please note that there may be errors in the on-line version of the National Board of Health and Welfare's regulations and general guidelines. The printed Swedish version of the code of statutes is always the legally valid version.

The regulations and general guidelines are not presented in consolidated form. If the regulations and general guidelines have been amended, this will only appear in The National Board of Health and Welfare Code of Statutes (SOSFS), searchable database.

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SOSFS
2007:19 (M)
Published on
10 December 2007

The National Board of Health and Welfare's regulations on basic hygiene in the Swedish health service, etc.

adopted on 27 November 2007.

The National Board of Health and Welfare prescribes the following pursuant to Article 2 paragraph 1 and Article 3 paragraphs 1 and 5 of the Swedish Government Ordinance (1985:796) authorising the NBHW to issue regulations, etc. and Article 12 of the Communicable Disease Control Ordinance (2004:255).

Area of application

Article 1 These regulations shall be applied to activities included in the Swedish Health and Medical Services Act (1982:763), the Swedish Dental Care Act (1985:125) and the Act (2001:499) on the Circumcision of Boys.

Responsibility of health service personnel

Article 2 Health service personnel shall during the examination, care and treatment of patients, or other direct contact with patients, observe the following to limit the risks of health-care associated infections:

1. Working-clothes shall have short sleeves.
2. Working-clothes shall be changed daily, or more often when needed.

3. Hands and lower arms shall be free from wristwatches and jewellery.
4. Hands shall be disinfected using an alcohol-based hand disinfectant, or another product with a similar effect, immediately before and after each direct contact with a patient.
5. Hands shall be disinfected before and after use of gloves.
6. If hands are visibly soiled, they shall be washed with water and liquid soap before being disinfected.
7. When caring for a patient with gastroenteritis, hands shall always be washed with water and liquid soap before being disinfected.
8. Washed hands shall be dry before being disinfected.
9. A disposable plastic apron or protective gown shall be used if there is a risk that working-clothes will come into contact with body fluids or other biological substances.
10. Disposable protective gloves shall be used if there is contact with, or risk of contact with, body fluids or other biological substances.
11. The protective gloves shall be removed directly after that stage of the work is finished, and shall be changed between stages of the work.

Article 3 The director or a person in a similar position in the dental services or in activities covered by the Act (2001:499) on the Circumcision of Boys shall monitor the activities on an ongoing basis, and ensure that the regulations in Article 2 are applied.

This statute enters into force two weeks after being printed

National Board of Health and Welfare

KJELL ASPLUND

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