

WHO SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands

SL: CYH Newsletter

Our call to action to health workers

19 January 2018

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SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands campaign, 5 May 2018 – announcing the slogan!

We are pleased to announce the slogan for the 5 May 2018 hand hygiene campaign! As the theme is health care-associated sepsis prevention and hand hygiene/infection prevention, the slogan that's been decided on is

'It's in your hands – prevent sepsis in health care'.

Once again, this year, the slogan aims to fulfill the goal of having a “joined-up” approach to infection prevention and is similar to the 2017 slogan so that each year the hand hygiene campaign will instantly resonate with people around the world.

Please spread the message – use the wording in this newsletter to share with others – we want to reach the infection prevention and control community who always support the campaign, and a new audience, those focused on prevention, diagnosis and management of sepsis in health care to garner their support and action for the sake of patient safety and saving lives.

Coming in the next couple of weeks are the “calls to action” for health care target audiences and posters containing a new image to go alongside the slogan. These will support you in your local awareness-raising. Get ready for action now by using the WHO campaign [toolkit](#) and continue to check these [web pages](#) as a new dedicated 5 May 2018 page will be launched soon to host all resources.

We need to see an increase in commitment to this global annual campaign so please also encourage all health facilities to sign up [here](#).

Recent WHO activity on prevention, diagnosis and management of sepsis

Sepsis is estimated to affect more than 30 million patients every year worldwide and global rates of sepsis are thought to be growing rapidly. At the Seventieth World

Health Assembly in May 2017, Member States adopted a [resolution](#) on improving the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of sepsis. The first Sepsis Technical Expert Meeting was held on 16-17 January 2018 at WHO headquarters, involving experts and other stakeholders and representatives from countries who have already progressed in the development and implementation of prevention, diagnosis and treatment of sepsis.

A new [web page](#) highlighting WHO's work on prevention, diagnosis and management of sepsis has now been launched and will feature guidelines and resources as they are launched in response to the resolution.

The WHO social media team this week issued Twitter messages raising awareness about the issue of health care-associated sepsis and to announce the 5 May 2018 slogan. Please follow WHO on social media and support the sharing of messages. These are some of them:

Q: What can cause #sepsis?

A: Sepsis can be triggered by infections caused by bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites, though bacterial infections are the most common. Health care-associated infections, or infections acquired during health care delivery, are common. They are a risk factor for developing #sepsis but we can prevent it.

Q: How can we prevent #sepsis?

A: Effective #HandHygiene in health care plays a role in preventing #sepsis. The 5 moments of clean hands can help.

On #HandHygiene Day (5 May), WHO will focus on #sepsis prevention.

We call on health workers, advocacy groups and authorities to take action to ensure hand hygiene is performed at the right times to prevent sepsis. It's in your hands - prevent sepsis in health care!

Guidelines for the prevention and control of carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae, Acinetobacter baumannii and Pseudomonas aeruginosa in health care facilities

These new WHO evidence-based guidelines were launched in November 2017, access them [here](#).

Access all WHO IPC resources

A new infographic has been launched which highlights the role of infection prevention and control to reduce the spread of antibiotic resistance. Access it [here](#) in English, French and Spanish, alongside other posters launched for World Antibiotic Awareness Week 2017.

Lancet Global Health article on infection prevention and control – Global Infection Prevention and Control Priorities 2018-22: A Call for Action was published in November 2018, written by staff at WHO and the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention in the USA, on behalf of the Global Infection Prevention and Control Network. It is "Open access" and a link can be found [here](#). Please use this article to

stimulate action on infection prevention in the coming years in your country, alongside other WHO guidelines and resources.

WHO guidelines on core components of infection prevention and control programmes – access them [here](#).

A range of Core component supporting implementing tools - [access](#) them here (with more to come soon), including:

- a visual representation of the core components;
- the *Interim practical manual supporting national implementation of the WHO guidelines on core components of infection prevention and control programmes*;
- the national *Infection prevention and control assessment tool* (IPCAT2);
- advocacy and instructional videos;
- a national policy-maker engagement brief;
- a document on the evidence of hand hygiene as a central building block for infection prevention and control.

Other updates and information

Free Webber Teleclass, 2.30pm CET, 24 January – Global Infection Prevention and Control Priorities 2018-22: A Call for Action. Dr Benedetta Allegranzi, WHO Infection Prevention and Control global unit. [Register here](#).

Launch of new Global Infection Prevention and Control Network (GIPCN) web pages – The GIPCN is coordinated by the Infection Prevention and Control global unit, more information can be found [here](#).

The WHO Global Learning Laboratory (GLL) – you can join this GLL [here](#). It includes a specific learning pod on IPC and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) where there are focused discussions involving people around the world.

A new Journal of Patient Safety and Risk Management – this new journal published by SAGE as a peer-reviewed paper and online journal, is the re-launch of the UK Journal formerly known as Clinical Risk and is [calling for research papers](#), commentary, review, or case report on topics related to patient safety, quality of care, risk management, and legal medicine. They offer rapid turn-around for review and publication. Volume 1, Number 1, will appear in February 2018, and the journal will be published every 2 months thereafter.

Influenza - WHO recently issued a media release stating that up to 650 000 deaths annually are associated with respiratory diseases from seasonal influenza. These figures are based on new estimates by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US-CDC), WHO and global health partners. WHO also updated their influenza (seasonal) factsheet, which can be found on the Organization's [home page](#), along with latest outbreak news.

Check out the 2017 year in review: key health issues - [review](#) the biggest health stories from WHO in 2017 and relive some of WHO's major achievements this past year.

Thank you for supporting IPC and hand hygiene in health care!

The WHO Infection Prevention and Control Global Unit Team

www.who.int/infection-prevention/en/

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 Soins Propres est un Soins 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.