Hand Hygiene Audit

The organization evaluates compliance with accepted hand hygiene practices.

**Guidelines**

Hand hygiene is considered the single most important way of reducing nosocomial infections, but compliance with hand hygiene protocols is poor.

Hand hygiene audits allow organizations to monitor compliance with hand hygiene protocols, improve education and training on hand hygiene, evaluate hand hygiene facilities, and benchmark practices across the organization. Studies have shown that improvements in hand hygiene compliance decreased the number of hospital-acquired infections.

**Tests for Compliance**

- The organization audits its compliance with hand hygiene practices.
- The organization shares results from the audits with staff, service providers, and volunteers.
- The organization uses the results of the audits to make improvements to its hand hygiene practices.

**Reference Material**


*Information used with permission of Accreditation Canada, February 2011*