

Take 30: Observe. Improve. Protect.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why Take 30 Minutes Weekly?

A recommended 30 minutes per week dedicated to performing hand hygiene reviews supports quarterly reporting, provides a real-time measure of compliance, identifies improvement opportunities, and celebrates success while promoting patient and staff safety.

What is a Hand Hygiene Review (audit)?

A process using direct observation to observe and record the hand hygiene practices of healthcare providers according to the 4 Moments for Hand Hygiene as per [Hand Hygiene Policy](#). Trained site-based reviewers complete this process. Other organizations may use the term “audit”.

What is a Hand Hygiene Moment?

Hand Hygiene Policy outlines 4 Moments for Hand Hygiene, which is based on the risk of microorganism transmission when a healthcare provider is interacting with a patient. Each time hand hygiene is required is considered a hand hygiene moment, the site-based reviewer records whether the healthcare provider completed hand hygiene (compliant) or did not (non-compliant).

What is Hand Hygiene Observation?

A hand hygiene observation (or opportunity) is a hand hygiene moment that was or was not performed by a healthcare provider but was required in accordance with the Four Moments for Hand Hygiene as per the [Hand Hygiene Policy](#) and as seen through direct observation by a trained site-based reviewer.

How Many Observations are Needed in 30 minutes?

There is no set number of observations required during a hand hygiene review. The number of observations collected will vary depending on patient activity, staffing, and the number of hand hygiene opportunities available during that time. For ideas on Take 30 – hand hygiene observation opportunities please visit the [Clean Hands System](#) webpage.

Why is it Important to Review all 4 Moments for Hand Hygiene?

Collecting observations for all 4 hand hygiene moments provides a complete picture of hand hygiene practices supporting data quality and improvement efforts. Capturing Moments 2 and 3 is important as these hand hygiene opportunities are less frequently reported.

How many Observations can be Collected in 30 Minutes?

Site-based hand hygiene reviewers can typically capture approximately 15 to 25 hand hygiene observations during a 30-minute review. Shorter observation sessions throughout

the week will allow site-based reviewers and managers greater flexibility to vary observation times and better represent hand hygiene practices across all shifts, weekdays, weekends, and holidays.

As a Leader How can I Support my Hand Hygiene Site-based Reviewer to Take 30?

For guidance on supporting a site-based reviewer in achieving 30 minutes of weekly observations, refer to the [Clean Hands System](#) webpage.

As a Site-based Reviewer how can I Achieve 30-minute Weekly Hand Hygiene Reviews?

Take 30 can be achieved by completing a 30-minute hand hygiene review each week, ideally during peak patient care periods when more hand hygiene opportunities occur. Collaborate with staff and leaders to identify high-activity workflows, care areas, and provider groups to maximize observation opportunities. For more ideas on ways to capture observations please visit the [Clean Hands System](#) webpage.

Can 30-Minute Hand Hygiene Reviews be Split into Multiple Review Sessions?

If completing a full 30-minute review at one time is challenging, the review can be divided into shorter observation sessions throughout the week.

Is There a Preferred Day of the Week for Completing Hand Hygiene Reviews?

Hand hygiene reviews can be conducted on any day of the week. Varying days and shifts can help capture different patient interactions, healthcare provider workflow, and care activities.

Why is it Important to Vary Observation Times?

Varying observation times helps provide a more accurate understanding of hand hygiene practices across different workflows, healthcare providers, and patient care situations.

Can I Observe More Than 30 Minutes a Week?

30 is the recommended minimum. Additional review time can be completed if resources and opportunities are available and may provide a larger sample of hand hygiene opportunities.

Who do I Contact if I have Questions?

Questions may be directed to your IPC team by submitting an email to hand.hygiene@ahs.ca.