

# Hand Hygiene: Updated Accreditation Requirements

## Why This Matters

Accreditation Canada has updated the required organizational practice (ROP) for hand hygiene.

## What's New

- Teams across all health agencies must now formally document hand hygiene improvement plans.
- Hand hygiene improvement work is not new. What *is* new is a more formalized process for documenting our commitment to improving hand hygiene compliance.

## What Leaders Need to Do

- Review your team's quarterly hand hygiene data.
- Collaborate with your team to identify opportunities and set clear improvement goals.
- Document your hand hygiene improvement plan using the approved templates and resources.

## What Staff Need to Know

- Hand hygiene is an organizational priority and part of everyone's daily practice.
- Compliance reviews are routine and expected in all areas.
- Your help in identifying improvement opportunities and engagement in setting team goals directly supports safer care for yourself, patients, families, and each other.

## AHS Infection Prevention and Control's Role

- Partnering with you to interpret hand hygiene compliance data as needed.
- Helping you to access the tools, templates, and resources to help build your hand hygiene improvement plan and answer any related questions.
- Discussing improvement opportunities identified by your team as needed.

## Resources Available

- [Hand hygiene improvement plan template](#)
- [Step-by-step instructions and documentation guidance](#) including a sample template and [FAQ](#)
- Data interpretation support
- Coaching from IPC teams

Together, we can improve safety for everyone. For questions, please email: [hand.hygiene@ahs.ca](mailto:hand.hygiene@ahs.ca).