Hand Hygiene Knowledge Questionnaire for Health-Care Workers

- The knowledge required for this test is specifically transmitted through the WHO hand hygiene training material and you may find the questions more difficult if you did not participate in this training.
- Tick only one answer to each question.
- Please read the questions carefully before answering. Your answers will be kept confidential.
- Short Glossary:
  - Alcohol-based handrub formulation: an alcohol-containing preparation (liquid, gel or foam) designed for application to the hands to kill germs.
  - Facility: health-care setting where the survey is being carried out (e.g., hospital, ambulatory, long-term facility, etc).
  - Handwashing: washing hands with plain or antimicrobial soap and water.
  - Service: a branch of a hospital staff that provides specified patient care.
  - Ward: a division, floor, or room of a hospital for a particular category or group of patients (it corresponds to the smallest segmentation of the health-care facility; one service can include multiple wards).

1. Personal ID**: 
2. Date: 
3. Facility: 
4. Service**: 
5. Ward**: 
6. City**: 
7. Country**: 
8. Gender: ☐ Female ☐ Male
9. Age: __ years
10. Profession***: ☐ Nurse ☐ Auxiliary nurse ☐ Midwife ☐ Medical doctor ☐ Resident ☐ Technician ☐ Therapist ☐ Nurse student ☐ Medical student ☐ Other

11: To be completed by the data manager.

** Optional, to be used if appropriate, according to the local needs and regulations.
***Technicians: radiologist, cardiology technician, operating room technician, laboratory technician
Therapist: physiotherapist, occupational therapist, audiologist, speech therapist
Others: dietitian, dentist, social worker, etc.
Department (please select the department which best represents yours):

- [ ] Internal medicine  - [ ] Surgery  - [ ] Intensive care unit  - [ ] Mixed medical/surgical
- [ ] Emergency unit  - [ ] Obstetrics  - [ ] Paediatrics  - [ ] Long-term/rehabilitation
- [ ] Outpatient clinic  - [ ] Other

12. Did you receive formal training in hand hygiene in the last three years?  - [ ] Yes  - [ ] No

13. Do you routinely use an alcohol-based handrub for hand hygiene?  - [ ] Yes  - [ ] No

14. Which of the following is the main route of cross-transmission of potentially harmful germs between patients in a health-care facility? (tick one answer only)

   a. [ ] Health-care workers’ hands when not clean
   b. [ ] Air circulating in the hospital
   c. [ ] Patients’ exposure to colonised surfaces (i.e., beds, chairs, tables, floors)
   d. [ ] Sharing non-invasive objects (i.e., stethoscopes, pressure cuffs, etc.) between patients

15. What is the most frequent source of germs responsible for health care-associated infections? (tick one answer only)

   a. [ ] The hospital’s water system
   b. [ ] The hospital air
   c. [ ] Germs already present on or within the patient
   d. [ ] The hospital environment (surfaces)

16. Which of the following hand hygiene actions prevents transmission of germs to the patient?  (tick one answer only)

   a. [ ] Before touching a patient
   b. [ ] Immediately after a risk of body fluid exposure
   c. [ ] After exposure to the immediate surroundings of a patient
   d. [ ] Immediately before a clean/aseptic procedure

17. Which of the following hand hygiene actions prevents transmission of germs to the health-care worker?

   a. [ ] After touching a patient
   b. [ ] Immediately after a risk of body fluid exposure
   c. [ ] Immediately before a clean/aseptic procedure
   d. [ ] After exposure to the immediate surroundings of a patient
18. Which of the following statements on alcohol-based handrub and handwashing with soap and water are true?

- a. Handrubbing is more rapid for hand cleansing than handwashing  [True/False]
- b. Handrubbing causes skin dryness more than handwashing  [True/False]
- c. Handrubbing is more effective against germs than handwashing  [True/False]
- d. Handwashing and handrubbing are recommended to be performed in sequence  [True/False]

19. What is the minimal time needed for alcohol-based handrub to kill most germs on your hands? *(tick one answer only)*

- a. 20 seconds
- b. 3 seconds
- c. 1 minute
- d. 10 seconds

20. Which type of hand hygiene method is required in the following situations?

- a. Before palpation of the abdomen  [Rubbing/Washing/None]
- b. Before giving an injection  [Rubbing/Washing/None]
- c. After emptying a bedpan  [Rubbing/Washing/None]
- d. After removing examination gloves  [Rubbing/Washing/None]
- e. After making a patient's bed  [Rubbing/Washing/None]
- f. After visible exposure to blood  [Rubbing/Washing/None]

21. Which of the following should be avoided, as associated with increased likelihood of colonisation of hands with harmful germs?

- a. Wearing jewellery  [Yes/No]
- b. Damaged skin  [Yes/No]
- c. Artificial fingernails  [Yes/No]
- d. Regular use of a hand cream  [Yes/No]

Thank you very much for your time!