

WHO Infection Prevention and Control Global newsletter



25 April 2022

News from WHO headquarters

Focus on World Hand Hygiene Day – 5 May 2022

New! Global goal 2022, faces of the campaign – read more on this newly launched promotion for 5 May 2022 below, as well as newly prepared social media messages for you.

When a health facility's quality and safety climate/culture values hand hygiene and infection prevention and control (IPC), this results in both patients and health workers being more protected and feeling cared for.

When people seek health care, they are hoping to get better, but tragically they too often acquire an avoidable infection, which can sometimes be serious or even fatal. Because of this, it is important to promote World Hand Hygiene Day (WHHD), on 5 May each year.

The WHHD slogan for 2022 is “Unite for safety: clean your hands”.



World Health Organization



UNITE FOR SAFETY CLEAN YOUR HANDS

This year's campaign page can be found [here](#)



World Hand Hygiene Day 2022

Unite for safety: clean your hands

When a health facility's "quality and safety climate or culture" values hand hygiene and infection prevention and control (IPC), this results in both patients and health workers being protected and cared for.

To prioritize clean hands in health facilities, people at all levels need to believe in the importance of hand hygiene and IPC to save lives, by acting as key players in achieving the appropriate behaviours and attitudes towards it. In other words, health workers at all levels and people accessing health care facilities need to unite on ensuring clean hands.

This year's theme for World Hand Hygiene Day, 5 May 2022, is focused on recognizing that we can add to a facility's climate or culture of safety and quality through cleaning our hands but also that a strong quality and safety culture will encourage people to clean hands at the right times and with the right products.

Unite, talk and work together on hand hygiene for high quality safer care everywhere.

About the campaign

Campaign details

Campaign theme: A health care "quality and safety climate or culture" that values hand hygiene and infection prevention and control.

Slogan: Unite for safety: clean your hands.

Campaign objectives: To recognize that people of all levels should work together to influence the culture/climate through clean hands knowledge and behaviour, to meet the common goal of safety and quality in the health care organization.

Calls to action

- Health care workers: thank you for leading by example and encouraging others to clean their hands.
- IPC practitioners: thank you for engaging health workers to be part of new hand hygiene initiatives.
- Quality and safety leads: thank you for working with infection prevention colleagues to support hand hygiene improvement.
- Facility managers: thank you for promoting a quality and safety culture to ensure clean hands.
- Policy makers: thank you for prioritizing resources, training and programmes on hand hygiene.
- People who use health care: thank you for getting involved in local hand hygiene campaigns and activities.

Videos & links

- **NEW CAMBODIA VIDEO**
- This VHO video provides promotional and instructional messages that outline why and how uniting for an organizational safety climate is important.
- **New resource:** Supporting you to talk about hand hygiene: A primer for those in health care.
- Applying the VHO multimodal strategy for successful infection prevention improvements in health care!
- Initiative for patient safety - hand hygiene with private organizations
- Tools for creating an institutional safety climate
- Annual 5 May advocacy toolkit

Announcements

World Hand Hygiene Day

5 May 2022

Webinar: World Hand Hygiene Day 2022

- Free Release: Special lecture for World Hand Hygiene Day 2022
- The Latest Infectious Diseases
- Clinical Microbiology and Infection

What can you do for WHHD?

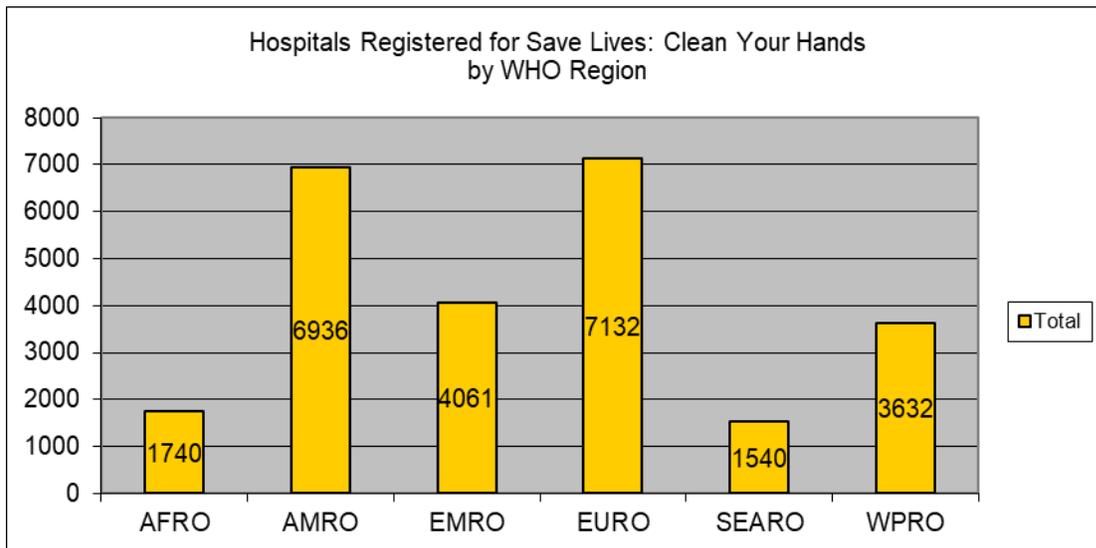
- **Help reach the Global Goal 2022!** Show your face on the **World Hand Hygiene Day “faces of the campaign”** 2022 wall. We want to highlight **1000 faces** from around the world to show that **people are UNITED in support of a health care quality and safety climate/culture through clean hands and infection prevention**. It’s very simple.
 - You can participate with your photo as an individual, a team, or a health care facility.
 - Click [here](#) and use your photo with the 2022 poster maker or the selfie board.
 - Submit your poster or the selfie board to the [“faces of the campaign”](#) 2022 wall.
 - Tag your picture or video on social media; mention #HandHygiene@WHO. This is also where you can post all your locally derived materials to share with others.
- Use the main **WHO WHHD 2022 campaign poster**, and those addressing target audiences to attract attention to the campaign. Everyone can be involved in hand hygiene improvement. Please use this year’s approach outlined in the WHO posters of **thanking people** as a positive way of engaging with them and encouraging them to continue to act.
- Use the range of **additional promotional materials** to further enhance campaign effectiveness with different audiences. Countries and health facilities are encouraged to use these in a variety of places to bring attention to their own local activities. The materials include:
 - a poster maker, which outlines exactly how you can insert your own photographs and share it – either in printed format or virtually;
 - a selfie board;
 - a Zoom background;
 - web banners;
 - a “Unite for safety: clean your hands” flag maker;
 - an advocacy slide set, outlining the campaign, the materials and how people can get involved;
 - GIFs and a short, animated video;
 - Use of a new Q&A document to help explain hand hygiene in the context of a quality and safety culture. This can be found [here](#).
 - Link to existing tools to promote hand hygiene improvement action in the context of quality and safety. A summary of these tools is available [here](#).
 - Promote a video by Professor Didier Pittet (Director, Infection Control Programme, University Hospitals of Geneva) and Professor Hanan Balkhy (Assistant Director-General, Antimicrobial Resistance Division, WHO headquarters), available [here](#).
- Undertake and promote various suggested **local engagement activities** to get health facilities involved in the campaign and again, reach different audiences. This encourages people to unite to create a culture of quality and safety that highlights the importance of clean hands.
 - One of the suggested activities is to **host a virtual or face-to-face hand hygiene café**, where ideas and insights for hand hygiene improvement can be shared in an open

- and welcoming forum, to help individual and collective commitment, knowledge and lessons learnt to emerge. Details of how to host these cafés and gather information from staff involvement in them can be found [here](#) on the WHO **WHHD web page**, under “How to get involved”. A promo flier for running such events is also available.
- Another suggestion is to **read** and **share** with others the **WHHD 2022 journal editorials** (see under Announcements on the [campaign webpage](#)) which highlight the importance of hand hygiene as an evidence-based action. One example of a recent *Lancet Infectious Diseases* piece can be found [here](#).
 - A new idea for this year is to have a **WHHD “word of the day”**. Each day of your local campaign you can pick a word, term or phrase relevant to the campaign in your local context and which is then promoted in a prominent place in the health care facility, such as at the main entrance or ward. The word, term or phrase could also be discussed at the hand hygiene café. WHO has made available posters with five different words of the day and a flier to promote this activity. Find those resources [here](#).
 - You could also **describe, through story-telling, your health facility’s quality and safety climate or culture** and the way it values hand hygiene, IPC and sustained improvement. This could include some specific aspects that you think made a hand hygiene or IPC improvement happen – for example, the attitude of leaders, commitment of necessary resources, partnership working, sharing and transparency. You can share this information both locally (through focus groups and/or meetings and events), as well as with WHO, by sending an email to: savelives@who.int.
 - Since it is universal, you can **share the #handhygiene message widely**. Through social media, you can reach and amplify the need for ongoing hand hygiene action to prevent many avoidable infections in health care. Get involved and reach existing and new audiences by using our draft messages and images found [here](#). An example is shown below. You can use these as the basis to create your own messages too.



- The WHO IPC team maintains a permanent focus on hand hygiene action, not only on 5 May each year. If you have not already done so, we also encourage health care

facilities to sign up to the *Save Lives Clean Your Hands* (SLCYH) campaign [here](#). As of August 2021, there were over 25 000 facilities, from 184 countries worldwide, representing over 5.4 million beds, that had committed to the SLCYH campaign.



What will WHO do for 5 May 2022?

- Issue a range of official social media messages which you can share. Look out for these @WHO and @DrTedros.
- A **WHO global webinar** on WHHD itself, 5 May 2022, at 13.30–15.30 CEST, which will bring together experts from WHO and from academic institutions and leaders from the field to discuss how a strong institutional quality and safety climate or culture that values hand hygiene and IPC is a critical element of effective strategies to reduce the spread of infection and antimicrobial resistance. The latest evidence on this, as well as priorities for research in this area, as identified by WHO, will be presented. With the help of a facilitator, participants will have the opportunity to interact with the expert panel and bring up their experiences. The webinar will also be the occasion for the launch of the first *WHO global report on IPC*. Please register [here](#).
- A **free Webber tele-class** on WHHD, 5 May 2022, at 16:00–17:00 CET, led by Professor Didier Pittet (Director, Infection Control Programme, University Hospitals of Geneva) and Dr Benedetta Allegranzi (IPC Technical Lead, WHO headquarters), will describe the theme of the campaign, highlighting the evidence and the promotional messages supporting it. Please register [here](#).

The 5 May WHHD 2022 campaign materials, mentioned in this newsletter and still upcoming can all be found on the WHO WHHD webpage [here](#).

How to get involved



Be a leader for tomorrow or how you can be involved in celebrating World Hand Hygiene Day 2022

Join the campaign



Share your facility's commitment to hand hygiene improvement with your partners. Sign up for the Be a Leader Clean Your Hands campaign.

[Sign up](#)

Campaign essentials

There is a wide range of campaign materials such as posters, social media assets (infographics, video banners, Zoom backgrounds, etc.), available in 16 official UN languages. Likewise, the sign and key messages for the campaign are accessible for download through the below link.

[Download Campaign assets](#)



MAIN CAMPAIGN AND CALL TO ACTION POSTERS 2022

Orange spotlights including those calling for continued action by key stakeholders in the health care area are available. Please use this year's approach showing people as a positive role of change in the world. These messages come in multiple languages and are available in all official UN languages.

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p style="font-size: x-small;">Campaign poster</p>  | <p style="font-size: x-small;">Facility manager</p>  | <p style="font-size: x-small;">Quality/improvement leader</p>  | <p style="font-size: x-small;">HC practitioners</p>  |
| | <p style="font-size: x-small;">Health workers</p>  | <p style="font-size: x-small;">Policy makers</p>  | <p style="font-size: x-small;">People who care</p>  |

Other news from WHO headquarters



New training modules on maternal and newborn care

On 5 May, WHO will launch the 4th module in the education series focusing on infection prevention and control in maternal and newborn care. In this module, the learner will be introduced to the risks of cross-infection and contamination from clinical interventions that may be required in labour; the indications for antibiotic prophylaxis in pregnancy, labour and the postpartum period; related components of antimicrobial stewardship; effective infection prevention in obstetrics, since practices and obstetrical management can influence the risk for infection or sepsis for the woman, the foetus, and newborn. You can find this module, along with other infection prevention and control education resources [here](#).



2022 Call for experts: Strategic and Technical Advisory Group on Medical Devices (STAG MEDEV)

Call for experts: WHO Strategic and Technical Advisory Group on Medical Devices (STAG MEDEV)

The World Health Organization is seeking experts to serve as members of the Strategic and Technical Advisory Group on Medical Devices (STAG MEDEV) which will act as an advisory body to WHO on matters of global policies and strategies related to medical devices and related health technologies and will advise WHO on global priorities and emerging issues. The [“Call for experts”](#) provides information about the advisory group in question, the expert profiles being sought, the process to express interest, and the selection process.

News from our partners

1. The **International Confederation of Midwives (ICM)** will celebrate this year's International Day of the Midwife (IDM) on 5 May 2022 under the theme “100 Years of Progress”, since 2022 marks ICM's centennial. The campaign acknowledges all the progress made, from the establishment of the first midwifery schools, to the appointment of the first chief midwives, as well as ever women being able to access continuity of care from a known midwife. The IDM advocacy toolkit is available [here](#).



2. **Is your facility WASH FIT (using the Water and sanitation for health facility improvement tool)?** This **WHO/UNICEF webinar** will take place on 26 April, at 13:00 CEST. Be the first to hear about the new and updated WASH FIT package, including country examples of improvements when using WASH FIT, and discuss plans for future implementation. You can register [here](#).
3. In line with the WHHD 2022 theme of institutional safety climate or culture, the **Global Alliance for Infections in Surgery** has recently published a [paper](#) defining an **organizational model for prevention and management of infections along the surgical pathway**. The content perfectly aligns with the multimodal strategy and multidisciplinary approach promoted by WHO to prevent surgical site infection during patients' surgical journey, including hand hygiene. You can find the related WHO guidelines and implementation tools [here](#).
4. **Asia Pacific Society of Infection Control (APUSIC)**
APUSIC will hold its 10th International Congress in Singapore on 28–31 July 2022 under the title **IPC @ The Crossroads**. Further details can be found [here](#).



World Health
Organization

