

## Creating Healthy Work Environments VIRTUAL 2021

### Evaluation of Compliance to the "5 Moments of Hand Hygiene" Among Nurses in Pretoria Hospitals

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#### **Purpose:**

to describe the compliance to the 5 moments of hand hygiene among nurses in selected Pretoria hospitals.

#### **Methods:**

This was a quantitative survey with longitudinal design. Covert observation method was used over six weeks to observe baseline hand hygiene compliance of nurses in three hospitals in Pretoria. The observations took place in 25 wards inclusive of 4 critical care units. Nurses knew that the observers were observing them for healthcare system delivery challenges but did not know that they were exclusively observed for their compliance to the '5 moments of hand hygiene'. All categories of nursing in these units were included in the observation provided any of the '5 moments of hand hygiene' was present.

#### **Results:**

We surveyed three hospital; and this constituted 10% of the hospitals in Pretoria. A total of 1357 direct observations of hand hygiene opportunities were observed in three hospitals. Nurses were compliant on 214 opportunities (15.77%). The moment before touching patient had 487 opportunities with 6.37% compliance and before clean/aseptic procedure moment has 80 opportunities with 20.00%. The moment after attending to patients had better compliance than the moments before contact with patient. The moment after exposure to bodily fluid had 89 opportunities and compliance was 33.91%, while after touching patient was observed 482 times with nurses' compliance to hand hygiene of 18.67%. The final moment was after touching patient immediate surrounding and with 219 observations and compliance of 18.95%.

#### **Conclusion:**

Nurses in this study had low compliance to the '5 moments of hand hygiene'. We noted with great concern that the two moments where nurses must protect patient i.e. 'before touching patient and before clean/aseptic procedure', hand hygiene was the lowest as compared to those moments where they protect themselves i.e. 'after being with patient'. The moment before clean/aseptic procedure had the lowest compliance to hand hygiene as compared to the other moments.

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#### **Title:**

Evaluation of Compliance to the "5 Moments of Hand Hygiene" Among Nurses in Pretoria Hospitals

**Keywords:**

Hand Hygiene, Healthcare-associated infections and Nurses

**Abstract Summary:**

The study was about establishing the baseline compliance on the 5 moments of hand hygiene. The results showed that nurses in the selected hospitals have inadequate compliance to this World Health Organization guideline

**References:**

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