

Alcohol-based handrubs keep patients and Ebola response workers safe

Based on proven evidence¹, effective hand hygiene strategies involve five elements.

Good hand hygiene helps to stop the spread of harmful microbes including the Ebola virus.

Alcohol handrubs enable workers to quickly, easily and effectively make their hands safe.



ONE System change

Access to a safe, continuous water supply as well as to soap and towels; readily accessible alcohol-based handrub at the point of care



TWO Training / Education

Providing regular training to all health-care workers



THREE Evaluation and feedback

Monitoring hand hygiene practices, infrastructure, perceptions and knowledge, while providing results feedback to health-care workers



FOUR Reminders in the workplace

Prompting and reminding health-care workers



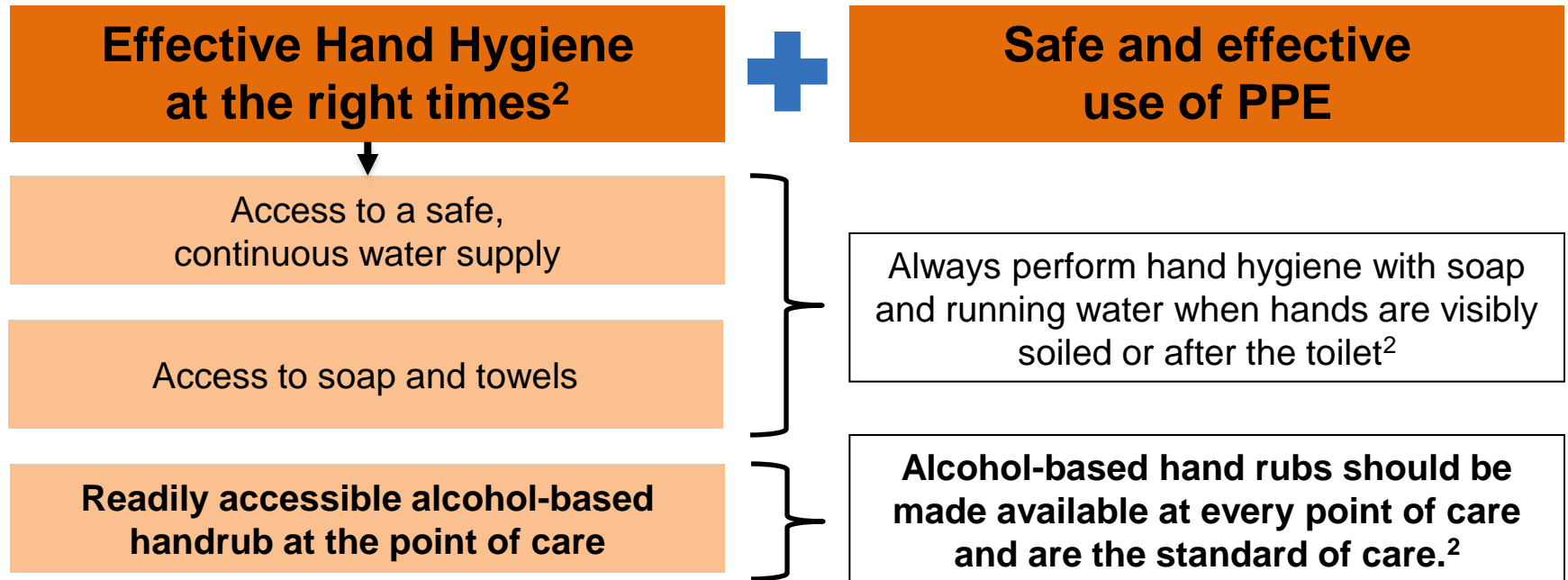
FIVE Institutional safety climate

Creating an environment and the perceptions that facilitate awareness-raising about patient safety issues

¹WHO Guidelines on Hand Hygiene in Health Care (2009)

Stopping the spread of Ebola through clean hands

safe healthcare workers, safe patients



- Alcohol-based handrub enables health workers to rapidly clean their hands and stay safe when caring for and treating patients.
- **Use a palmful, follow the WHO technique and once dry – your hands are safe**
- When storing keep away from flame and heat.

²WHO Interim Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for Care of Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Filovirus Haemorrhagic Fever in Health-Care Settings, with Focus on Ebola (2014)

WHO resources to help you to ensure safe clean hands

→ Hand hygiene in health care in the context of Filovirus disease outbreak response

Geneva, World Health Organization, Nov 2014.

<http://www.who.int/csr/resources/publications/ebola/hand-hygiene/en/>

→ How to Handrub

Geneva, World Health Organization, May 2009.

http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/How_To_HandRub_Poster.pdf?ua=1

→ How to Handwash

Geneva, World Health Organization, May 2009.

http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/How_To_HandWash_Poster.pdf?ua=1

→ Hand Hygiene: When and How

Geneva, World Health Organization, Aug 2009.

http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/Hand_Hygiene_When_and_How_Leaflet.pdf?ua=1

Find more information on the background science to the effectiveness of alcohol-based handrub in the WHO Guidelines on hand hygiene in health care (2009)

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44102/1/9789241597906_eng.pdf