News from WHO headquarters

1. Update on World Hand Hygiene Day - 5 May 2022

The theme of this year’s World Hand Hygiene Day (WHHD), 5 May 2022, is focused on "quality and safety climate or culture", recognizing that people at all levels of the health system can work together to influence the culture and climate of safety and quality through clean hands, to meet the common goal of safety and quality in health care delivery. A strong quality and safety culture will, therefore, encourage and support people to clean hands at the right times and with the right products. In other words, health workers at all levels and all those accessing health care facilities need to unite on ensuring clean hands.

The slogan is ‘Unite for Safety – clean your hands’.
You can find information and resources on WHHD 2022 here, including the main poster and other posters addressing specific target audiences with key calls to action.

Please use this year’s suggested approach of thanking the different people working within or using health care, as a positive way of engaging them to continue to ensure that clean hands save lives.

You can download a range of materials in several languages, including selfie boards, a Zoom background, web banners, etc. to help show your support for the campaign and to encourage action. New resources available now are the ‘Unite for Safety – clean your hands’ flag maker, the poster maker, a new animation video, and the advocacy slide set.

Please display the 2022 campaign posters and other materials on your facility’s walls, computers, etc. You can also print the ‘Unite for Safety – clean your hands’ flag to be used in your facility ahead of and on 5 May 2022!

Ideas on how to get involved on 5 May 2022, on an individual basis, with your team and within your health care facility are coming soon. In particular, we will provide key messages, questions and answers, and instructions for health care facilities to host a virtual hand hygiene café to share ideas and insights for bringing about hand hygiene improvement.

And remember to use the campaign toolkit to progress your ideas for organizing your health facility for May. And please spread the word, encouraging your colleagues to sign up to this global campaign, if they have not already done so.

Please check the WHHD 2022 web pages regularly to keep up-to-date.
2. **New WHO video “Learning from changemakers in health”**

This [new WHO video](#) is a perfect fit to support the theme of WHHD 2022! It weaves together stories from individuals and groups in health, who have been intentionally leading change. It reveals some of the many ways that these changemakers have managed to significantly impact their health care environments and improve health outcomes, often through relatively small, local interventions.

From improving patient safety and reducing patient harm, to promoting community health and introducing compassion in health leadership, these stories offer insights into how change can be ignited from the inside and spread outwards, by anyone and at any level of a health system. The key here is that change can be triggered by anyone, often starting small but that can then snowball. The message for policy-makers, funders and researchers is to connect our head and heart and invest in solutions developed by people and for people.

3. **Global IPC portal – new facility tool available**

The [Global IPC Portal](#) is a resource for all health workers, as well as other professionals working in the field of infection prevention and control (IPC). It will help you carry out a situational analysis, track progress and understand how to make improvements to IPC at the national and facility levels, in accordance with validated WHO standards and implementation materials. Currently, the WHO national and facility level assessment tools are available for use.

![Image of IPC portal tools](#)

4. **Infection prevention and control in health emergencies – new web page launched**

A new web page on [infection prevention and control under health emergencies](#) was launched on 18 January 2022. The goal of the WHO IPC team in the health emergencies division is to prioritize key actions, provide focused tools, training materials and technical guidance for countries and health service providers, and to ensure effective IPC and WASH resource planning and
mobilization during the readiness and response phases of emergencies. The work often requires strategic deviation from normative IPC and WASH interventions towards focused situation-specific risk assessments.
News from our partners

1. Infection prevention and control (IPAC) – Canada

IPAC Canada will be holding a virtual national education conference on 25–27 April with the theme of “Connecting people, science and practice” and encourages IPC professional and health care providers to get involved. Abstract submissions are now closed but registration is available here.

2. Australian College for Infection prevention and control (ACIPC)

Highlighted on page 7 of ACIPC’s February newsletter is a short article noting the difficulty in finding IPC stock images and providing a link to a bank of stock photos related to dental practices, for example the correct use of personal protective equipment (PPE) in dentistry.

For more information visit: https://dentalstockphotos.com/
3. **Asia Pacific Society of Infection Control (APSIC)**

APSIC will hold its 10th International Congress in Singapore from 28–31 July 2022 under the title *IPC @ The Crossroads*. Further details can be found [here](#).

![APSIC 2022 Congress Image]

4. **Global Sepsis Alliance (GSA)**

GSA announces The Infection Management Coalition, which was launched in the UK last month and is supported by advocacy organizations, academic institutions, industry and trade associations. The Coalition has set out a framework for a holistic approach to infections management, which makes recommendations across the four domains of infection management, namely: outbreak preparedness; infection prevention; rapid recognition, diagnosis and treatment; and antimicrobial stewardship, and proposes bringing stakeholders together with one voice.

![Infection Management Coalition White Paper]

5. **Antimicrobial Resistance - One Health Consortium, University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada**

The Antimicrobial Resistance - One Health Consortium is a pan-Alberta collaborative platform focused on antimicrobial use and resistance research, policy, training, outreach, and commercialization. It has recently published a systematic review in BMC (Springer Nature) entitled *Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in COVID-19 patients: a systematic review and meta-analysis* (November 2019–June 2021) to quantify the prevalence and types of resistant co-infecting organisms in patients with COVID-19, and to explore differences across hospital and geographic settings.