

WHO SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands**SL: CYH Newsletter****10 April 2013***Dear Colleagues,*

Professor Pittet has offered us his energetic input to introduce this last Newsletter before heading to 5 May. Here is his message, passing on his support for 5 May efforts and celebrations around the world:

*“This year, once again, the global movement catalysed by WHO around hand hygiene in health care is showing its amazing vitality! Many national and local campaigns have organized activities and celebrations to respond to the WHO call to action on **hand hygiene monitoring and feedback** and **patient participation in hand hygiene promotion**, including some quite innovative approaches to these key topics. You will hear all about these in my special lecture on 6 May 2013.*

5 May has also received formal and concrete support from major infection control networks, societies, partners and centres worldwide. Web site links and information on these stakeholders’ support will be featured by WHO on the 5 May web pages in the coming weeks. Such continuous efforts and progress demonstrate two important facts:

- 1) awareness-raising continues and stimulates new health-care facilities to join and engage in hand hygiene improvement;*
- 2) facilities and countries that have achieved significant progress are determined to sustain it with renewed efforts and innovation, and to strengthen their leadership through research and spread. This was our dream when we launched the First Global Patient Safety Challenge back in 2005!*

*We have some more input to provide you with and we still need your help to once again achieve a very successful 5 May this year! I invite you to encourage some “not yet registered” health-care facilities to join **SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands**, and to continue to prepare for your celebrations and activities planned around 5 May, involving patients in particular. In this Newsletter, you will find what further support WHO will offer you from now up to 5 May.”*

In this edition:

1. Health-care facility registrations for **SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands** - Where are we now? What can we achieve together by 5 May?
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1. Health-care facility registrations for **SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands - Where are we now? What can we achieve together by 5 May?**

According to the **8 April 2013** update, the number of facilities registered for **SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands** has now exceeded **15 500!** We welcome and thank facilities from three new countries: **Djibouti, Iceland and Togo!** The updated numbers are in fact **15 596 facilities** from **164 countries**, corresponding to almost **3.9 mio beds** and more than **9 mio health-care workers***.

By 5 May 2013, please help us achieve new registrations from at least five new countries that have NO facilities yet registered, especially in the African Region, and to increase registrations in countries with low numbers!

See the list of countries with NO registrations or low numbers and encourage new facilities to register!

2. Reminder about the WHO call to action for 5 May 2013 – Focus on *Hand hygiene monitoring and feedback*****

In the March Newsletter, we focused on patient participation in hand hygiene promotion and issued a new tool called “**Tips for implementing a successful patient participation programme**”. You can access more information and tools on patient participation on our dedicated web page. We renew our invitation to all of you to provide us with information about good videos of patient stories on health care-associated infection and/or patient participation in hand hygiene and to send the related web link(s) by email to savelives@who.int.

In this issue, we would like to focus again on ***Hand hygiene monitoring and feedback***. As you know, this is an essential element of any hand hygiene campaign. We are all aware that monitoring does require significant efforts and resources, but we also know from experience how important is to be able to understand the local situation through sound indicators and how impactful it is to provide feedback to health-care workers and

managers based on real local data. Over the last years, research has brought evidence and new tools on a range of hand hygiene indicators and how to combine them to gather more complete information and also to render monitoring more standardized and feasible.

Promising innovative systems for the automated/electronic monitoring of hand hygiene indicators are now available. Our team has made an evaluation of existing evidence about their validity, suitability for use and advantages through a systematic review of the literature. In the next days, a short summary of these findings will be available on our [web page](#) dedicated to hand hygiene monitoring and feedback.

You may remember, in previous Newsletters we announced that Hand Hygiene Australia had kindly agreed to make their **online web-based application for hand hygiene compliance monitoring (HHCApp) freely available** for use by other national campaigns or health-care facilities. This is part of an [International Data Collection Project](#), supported by WHO, launched in February 2013. We are pleased to let you know that many facilities from 16 different countries have already joined this project so far. Do take advantage of the opportunity to use HHCApp too!

We remind you that the [WHO Hand Hygiene Self-Assessment Framework \(HHSAF\)](#) is a very powerful tool to get a situation analysis and track progress at your facility! After completing the HHSAF, use and adapt the [WHO Template Action Plans](#) to implement your plans for local improvement! Select one action to target for 5 May 2013!

Just yesterday, on 9 April, Dr John Boyce (New Haven, USA) made a presentation on “Innovation and new indicators in hand hygiene monitoring”, in the context of our **2013 Free Teleclass Series on Infection Control**. The broadcast and slides of this presentation [are still available here](#)

3. Highlights on events and opportunities from 3 to 7 May 2013

We are preparing videos by Sir Liam Donaldson, WHO Envoy for Patient Safety, and Professor Didier Pittet. These will highlight the focuses of 5 May this year. They will be available in English on our [web site](#) in the last week of April and you can use them during the events you may have organized to celebrate 5 May.

On 3 May 2013 WHO will:

- Issue a note to the media
- Make available a new tool entitled “Tips for patients” to understand how to participate in hand hygiene improvement during health-care delivery
- Make available key hand hygiene tools translated in **Chinese and Arabic**

- Make available the Spanish translation of the WHO Guide on Hand Hygiene in Outpatient and Home-based Care and Long-term Care Facilities (kindly provided by the Spanish Ministry of Health)
- Observe **SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands** on social media as well. We will start celebrating hand hygiene a week ahead of 5 May. Stay tuned! You can already follow us on Twitter (@WHO) and Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/worldhealthorganization>) and ask your peers to do the same. We look forward to your participation!

On 6 May, at 2.30 pm CET, in the context of the **2013 Free Teleclass Series on Infection Control**, Professor Didier Pittet will make his special presentation on 5 May, on the **latest update on hand hygiene evidence**. Go on, [Register now!](#)

4. **The PROHIBIT project and its highlights at ECCMID 2013**

PROHIBIT (Prevention of Hospital Infections by Intervention & Training) is a sophisticated and interesting research project funded by the European Commission and lead by the University of Geneva, that includes several prestigious partners, including WHO. The main aim of PROHIBIT is to understand the variations of HAI prevention in Europe and to test the effectiveness of two interventions to prevent catheter-related bloodstream infections, one of which is **hand hygiene**. Research has been conducted over the last two years and the first breakthrough findings about hand hygiene and other infection control topics will be presented as posters and in symposia at the **23rd ECCMID 2013 in Berlin**. If you attend the conference, make sure you don't miss them!

- **Poster:** "Do head physicians and frontline workers remind each other of hand hygiene performance? First results of the pan-European PROHIBIT Survey" by Sonja Hansen et al, and the PROHIBIT consortium.
- **Poster:** "Health-care associated infections in surgical and ICU populations. Systematic review of national European guidelines for the prevention of ventilator-associated pneumonia" by M. Martin et al, and the PROHIBIT consortium
- **Oral presentation:** "Overview of what is really done in infection control in Europe - data from 24 countries" by Sonja Hansen et al, and the PROHIBIT consortium.
- **Official Symposium:** "Infection prevention measures in Europe: what makes sense and is it implemented?", presentation entitled "Overview about the existing guidelines / laws in infection control in European countries (PROHIBIT Work package 2)" by M. Dettenkofer.

5. **Online seminar: The WHO Safe Childbirth Checklist Collaboration**

We take this opportunity to promote another important initiative promoted by the WHO Patient Safety Programme. In November 2012, WHO launched the [Safe Childbirth Checklist Collaboration](#) with an invitation to organizations working in maternal and child

health to work with WHO and study the implementation and usefulness of the Checklist in diverse health-care settings. The launch of the Collaboration followed completion of the Pilot Edition of the Safe Childbirth Checklist and Manual.

The Patient Safety Programme, together with two other WHO departments are holding an online seminar on 8 May 2013 on this recently-launched initiative. Please feel free to distribute this information to your colleagues in the field of maternal and child health. Complete information on how to join this webinar can be found [here](#).

Thank you for your on-going commitment and support to WHO for **SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands** and **5 May!**

Warm regards from the

WHO Patient Safety Programme: Clean Care is Safer Care.

Previous SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands newsletters can be used to help you develop your own messages to encourage others to take action

Enquiries: savelives@who.int

WHO Clean Care is Safer Care

* Note that this number represents the latest update of Save Lives figures. They update data presented in Newsletters N°43 and 45 which overestimated numbers of health workers due to a workforce calculation error.

Providing WHO information has to be balanced with available resources, both human and financial. The WHO Patient Safety Programme, including the Clean Care is Safer Care team, do their best to translate their most relevant tools and documents. Regretfully, we are not currently in a position to translate this SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands newsletter into French or Spanish. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you and hope that you will remain a valued reader of the newsletter.

La délivrance d'informations provenant de l'OMS dépend des ressources disponibles, à la fois humaines et financières. Le Programme OMS pour la Sécurité des Patients, comprenant l'équipe "Un Soin Propre est un Soin plus sûr", fait de son mieux pour traduire ses outils et documents les plus importants. Malheureusement, nous ne sommes pas actuellement en mesure de traduire la lettre d'information mensuelle de SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands en français et en espagnol. Nous nous excusons pour ce désagrément et espérons que vous resterez un fidèle lecteur de la lettre d'information à l'avenir.

La información generada por la OMS, depende de los recursos humanos y económicos disponibles. El Programa por la Seguridad del Paciente, y el equipo de la iniciativa "Cuidado Limpio es Cuidado Seguro", realizan sus mejores esfuerzos para traducir el material y documentos de mayor importancia. Desafortunadamente, por el momento no contamos con la facilidad de traducir el boletín mensual SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands en francés o español. Le pedimos disculpas por cualquier inconveniente que podamos causarle, y esperamos seguir contando con su valiosa participación como lector de nuestro boletín.