

Tuesday, 01 March 2011

Health Protection

Help us to prevent
infections spreading



The easiest way to pass on germs is with our hands so when staff clean their hands before and after touching each patient, it helps stop the bugs spreading.

There are **two** main ways to clean hands:

Washing with soap and water
This removes germs and is best when hands are soiled. Soap and water should be used to clean hands if the patient is vomiting or has diarrhoea.

Using alcohol handrubs
These kill more than **99 per cent** of germs in around **30 seconds** and dry naturally on the skin. And because we don't have to be near a sink to use them, they are also very convenient. The cleanyourhands campaign encourages staff to use these rubs.

We hope for seeing us there will help you feel confident that you're in safe hands.



This leaflet is part of an extension of the clean**your**hands campaign, aimed at preventing the spread of healthcare associated infections (HCAIs) in community healthcare settings including primary care and dental services, residential and nursing homes (including independent sector homes), hospices and independent clinics/hospitals. It is designed to heighten awareness in patient/relative waiting areas of how healthcare staff can help protect patients from avoidable infections by cleaning their hands using proper techniques.

Due to licensing restrictions, this leaflet is not available for download. Limited numbers are available from local HSC Trusts (Belfast HSCT and South Eastern HSCT on 028 9056 5862; Southern HSCT on 028 3741 2887; Northern HSCT on 028 2563 5575; Western HSCT on 028 7186 5127).

Details

Format

Double sided A5 leaflet

Target group

Patients/relatives

[Print](#)