

Kentucky MRSA Collaborative

Measure Information: **Compliance with Hand Hygiene**

Definition: The percentage of patient encounters in the ICU(s) or other designated high-risk area in which there is compliance by health care workers with all components of hand hygiene and glove practices

CALCULATION DETAILS:

Numerator Definition: Number of patient encounters directly observed in which a health care worker performed all components of hand hygiene correctly in the calendar month

Numerator Exclusions: None

Denominator Definition: Total number of patient encounters observed in the calendar month

Denominator Exclusions: None

Measurement Period Length: Monthly

Definition of Terms: “Complete compliance” is defined as adherence with the hand hygiene techniques.

Calculate as: (numerator / denominator) x 100; as a percent.

COLLECTION STRATEGY:

Compliance is monitored with direct observation by a trained observer using a standardized procedure and form (see attached). Observation periods should be 20-30 minutes (repeated if necessary) so that approximately 20-30 patient encounters are observed. The emphasis should be on observing complete encounters so that the proper measure of complete compliance with all components of hand hygiene can be calculated.

Sampling Strategy:

Schedule set time periods in advance, distributed equally across shifts, days, and units (if measuring on more than one unit). Health care workers should not know the schedule, only the observers.