



World Hand Hygiene Day 2025: “It Might Be Gloves. It’s Always Hand Hygiene.”

This year, World Hand Hygiene Day falls on Monday 5th May 2025. As this is a bank holiday, I am encouraging you all to celebrate World Hand Hygiene day within your practices for the week of 6th May- 9th May. This is a pivotal moment to reaffirm the critical role of hand hygiene in infection prevention and control (IPC). This year’s theme, “It might be gloves. It’s always hand hygiene,” underscores a vital message:

*“Medical gloves can get contaminated as easily as bare hands and do not protect 100%. When worn, gloves should be removed after touching a patient, and hand hygiene performed immediately as per the WHO 5 Moments for Hand Hygiene.”
(WHO, 2025)*

This theme emphasises that while gloves are essential in healthcare settings, they do not replace the necessity for proper hand hygiene. Gloves can become contaminated just like hands, and improper use can contribute to the spread of infections. Therefore, healthcare workers must adhere to the WHO’s Five Moments for Hand Hygiene, ensuring that hand hygiene is performed at the right times and in the right way, regardless of glove use.

World Hand Hygiene Day is not only a single-day observance but also a call to action for a week-long focus on hand hygiene practices. Throughout the week, healthcare settings, organisations, and communities are encouraged to engage in activities that promote hand hygiene awareness, education, and improvement. This extended focus allows for deeper engagement and a more sustained impact on hand hygiene practices.

By prioritizing hand hygiene and appropriate glove use, we can significantly reduce healthcare-associated infections, enhance patient safety, and contribute to a safer healthcare environment for all.

For more information and resources, visit the [World Hand Hygiene Day 2025 campaign page](#).[World Health Organization \(WHO\)+2World Health Organization \(WHO\)+2World Health Organization \(WHO\)+2](#)