

Facility Name:

**Hand Hygiene Protocol
4-27-09 Update for Swine Influenza Outbreak**

Guideline: Clinical staff shall perform hand hygiene with PDI's Sani-Hands® ALC Antimicrobial Alcohol Gel Hand Wipes when handwashing is not required or not available. Staff will follow the guidelines as outlined below for appropriate situations to perform hand hygiene with the alcohol based product in accordance with the cited regulations and standards listed under References. Sani-Hands® ALC alcohol hand wipes may also be used for the cleaning of residents/patients hands when handwashing is not feasible or available. The frequent practice of hand hygiene will prevent the spread of infection.

References:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): Interim Guidance for Infection Control for Care of Patients with Confirmed or Suspected Swine Influenza A (H1N1) Virus Infection in a Healthcare Setting: *Standard, droplet, and contact precautions should be used for all patient care activities, and maintained for 7 days after illness onset, or until symptoms have resolved. Maintain adherence to hand hygiene by washing with soap and water or using hand sanitizer immediately after removing gloves and other equipment and after any contact with respiratory secretions.*

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Bloodborne Pathogen Standard: *Employers shall provide work practice controls and engineering controls/products for handwashing and hand hygiene to prevent exposure to bloodborne pathogens.*

Department of Public Health: *Facilities must provide a safe, functional, sanitary and comfortable environment for the residents, staff and the public.*

Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO): National Patient Safety Goals: *Reduce the risk of healthcare associated infections. Reduce the risk of influenza and pneumococcal disease in older adults.*

Equipment Needed:

Sani-Hands® ALC canister or individual packets

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Directions for Use:

- | Steps | Key Points |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Use Sani-Hands® ALC antimicrobial hand wipes for the following situations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Before starting any invasive procedure (i.e. IV or catheter insertion)• After removing personal protective equipment, including gloves• Before and after every patient/resident contact• When moving from a contaminated area of the body to a clean area of the body• After handling any contaminated surfaces, equipment, linen or trash• Before medication preparation• After sharing equipment such as keyboards and telephones• For cleaning residents hands before mealtimes, after group activities, after handling shared equipment, after touching animals during pet therapy, for day trips outside the facility <p>2. Pull the wipe out of the canister at an angle and tear off.</p> <p>3. Using the entire wipe, wipe all areas of the hands including between fingers, around wrists and under fingernails.</p> | <p>a. Handwashing with soap and water should still be performed when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Before and after using bathroom• When hands are visibly soiled• For patients with confirmed C-Diff infection <p>b. Tearing at an angle will allow only the tip of the next wipe to show through.</p> <p>c. Sani-Hands® ALC wipes contain 65.9% alcohol as the antimicrobial and emollients to prevent drying of the skin</p> |

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- 4. Discard hand wipe into regular trash.
 - d. Using a wipe provides physical friction to remove dirt/debris
 - e. Sani-Hands® ALC wipes are disposable.

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