MCINTOSH TRAIL
COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARD

POLICY NO. 2504
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SUBJECT: HAND HYGIENE POLICY AND PROCEDURE

EFFECTIVE
DATE: 01-14-05 (replaces 08-01-96)

APPROVED BY:

Reviewed (no changes): 01-14-05 01-25-10
08-17-08

Executive Director

POLICY

The policy of McIntosh Trail CSB is that hand washing removes organisms from agency staff hands after eating, after touching hair or mouth, after using toilet, after contact with ill persons, and any other time using good judgment, thus preventing the spread of infection.

PROCEDURE

Hand washing will be done by personnel:

- Before performing invasive procedures or handling invasive devices;
- Before and after contact with wounds;
- Before contact with particularly susceptible consumers;
- After contact with body substances or articles contaminated with them;
- Immediately or as soon as feasible after removal of gloves, gowns or coats, masks and/or eye protection.

Following any contact of body areas with blood, body substances or other infectious materials, personnel will wash their hands and any other exposed skin with liquid hand soap and water as soon as possible. They will also flush exposed mucous membrances with water.

A. Guidelines:

1. After wetting hands, apply liquid hand soap and wash hands vigorously for at least 15 seconds. Keep hands in open position, washing between fingers
and thumbs and under fingernails. Rinse well.

2. Dry hands with paper towels. Use same paper towel to turn off faucet. Get new paper towel and use it to open bathroom door; drop paper towel in trash can on the way out door.

3. Preventing dermatitis for agency staff. Allergies, frequent hand washing and wearing gloves can increase irritation to agency staff hands. Protect hands at work by:

   a. Using antibacterial soap only when indicated, ie: in areas experiencing an outbreak of bacterial infection.
   b. Using non-scented hand cream or lotion. Handle bottles only with clean hands and do not share bottles.
   c. If gloves cause irritation, utilize vinyl instead of latex or Utilize powder-free gloves.
   d. If irritation is severe or unable to be relieved, staff may need to see a dermatologist.

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PROCEDURE (CONTINUED)

B. Use of Soap:

1. Self-contained (disposable) liquid soap containers are the recommended product. There should be **no** bar soap at any sink. ***Exception***: a consumer may have his/her own personal soap bar. It must be kept in a personal soap dish and removed to his/her room after bathing.

2. When facilities for hand washing are not accessible or are inadequate, an approved alcohol-based hand rinse product will be used. Hand washing with soap and water must occur when hands are obviously contaminated and/or after ten applications of an alcohol hand rinse.

   A. These approved alcohol-based hand sanitizers should state on the label that they kill 99.9% of germs and contain at least 62% ethyl alcohol or denatured alcohol. The product chosen by McIntosh Trail staff is Dermostat, available from Moore Medical at 1-800-234-1464. This product is one of many available and is encouraged, but is not mandatory.

   B. Alcohol-based hand rubs must be used as stated in the directions on bottles. If product is foam, generally place golf-ball size amount in hands and rub for 15 seconds. If product is a liquid, the amount to use is one teaspoon (5 ml). Hands and forearms should be rubbed until dry, generally about 15 seconds.

Attachment: CDC Fact Sheet
References: JCAHO Chapter IC