

IC UPDATE

Infection Prevention and Public Health Update
Wisconsin Division of Public Health
Bureau of Communicable Diseases
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Tom Haupt



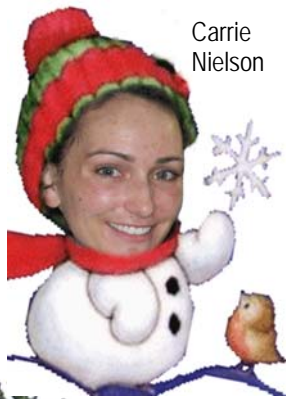
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*Happy
Holidays!
from the Epi Section*



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NEW ON THE DPH WEBSITE

Infection Control and Prevention - Principles and Practices for Local Public Health Agencies has recently been released and is available at <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/InfectionControl/index.htm>.

Topics include:

[Infection Control Home](#) | [Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure](#) | [Educational Tools](#) | [FAQs](#) | [OPIM](#) | [Pandemic Influenza](#) | [PPE](#) | [Standard Precautions](#) | [TB](#) | [Transmission-based Precautions](#)

The site also includes links to resources, references and other websites (including the new DPH PPE webpage at <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/ppe/>).

An educational packet about safe injection practices has been developed and distributed jointly by the Bureau of Communicable Diseases and the Division of Quality Assurance. It is available at <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/resources/HlthProvider.htm>

OTHER RESOURCES

The Division of Quality Resources publishes a quarterly Information Update containing memos, rule revisions, best practices, upcoming training opportunities, and other valuable materials for licensed facilities. Visit the website at http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/rl_DSL/Publications/BQAupdates.htm to view past issues. If you are interested in receiving this publication electronically, go to http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/dsl_info/signup.htm

Influenza information for the general public is available at <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/influenza/FluConsumerEd.htm>. The site offers posters on how to prevent the spread of influenza at work, in daycares and schools, and at home. CDC also has information promoting the influenza vaccine and has developed a documentary with Families Fight Flu, a non-profit organization providing education about the importance of vaccinating children against influenza. The documentary has been placed on the popular Internet video site YouTube and can be seen at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kh_6X6C2Icc

The National HIV/AIDS Clinicians Consultation Center has published a State HIV Testing Law Compendium describing key state HIV testing laws and policies. Access the compendium at <http://www.nccc.ucsf.edu/StateLaws/Index.html> then use the map to click on Wisconsin to find the 49-page document about Wisconsin state HIV laws.

CDC began in January, 2008, a nationwide investigation of severe adverse reactions among hemodialysis patients. Contaminated heparin was linked to the cases of adverse reactions. An article is published at <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/NEJMoa0806450>

The American Heart Association has released new guidelines for the prevention of infective endocarditis. After re-assessing available evidence, the authors of the guidelines have significantly revised the recommendations for antibiotic prophylaxis for certain medical and dental procedures. Access a commentary at www.guideline.gov/resources/commentary.aspx?file=Endocarditis_Prophylaxis.inc The guidelines can be found

at: http://jada.ada.org/cgi/content/full/139/suppl_1/3S

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has published guidelines entitled, "Personal Protective Equipment for Health Care Workers Who Work with Hazardous Drugs." Go to <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/wp-solutions/2009-106/> to access the publication.

The National Institutes of Health has prepared a consensus statement on the management of Hepatitis B Virus infections. Go to http://consensus.nih.gov/2008/hebB%20draft%20statement%20102208_FINAL.pdf to view the document.

An article in the journal *Microbiology* [2008 Oct; 154 (Pt 10):3144-53] entitled, "Multidrug efflux pump overexpression in *Staphylococcus aureus* after single and multiple in vitro exposures to biocides and dye," has led to inaccurate conclusions that there is a link between use of disinfectants and emergence of antimicrobial resistance. Reports misled readers into thinking the CDC supported this notion, but Dr. Arjun Srinivasan from the Division of Health Care Quality Promotion states that CDC has not seen evidence to support the link. He goes on to say CDC recommendations for environmental infection control have not changed, and the agency has always encouraged proper use of disinfectants.

Revised recommendations for isolation of persons with mumps can be found in an October *MMWR* publication at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5740a3.htm> The period of isolation has been reduced from nine days to five days after onset of parotitis.

The *New England Journal of Medicine* featured a case of skin and soft tissue infection in a college basketball player and asked readers to vote on how to manage the case. Go to <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/359/15/e20> to see the polling results.



President of Northeast Wisconsin (NEW) APIC Anna Malek presents a \$2,100 check to John Fritz of the Northeastern Wisconsin Alzheimer's Association during the November Long Term Care Conference sponsored by NEW APIC. The generous donation came from conference registration fees and a matching contribution from NEW APIC members.

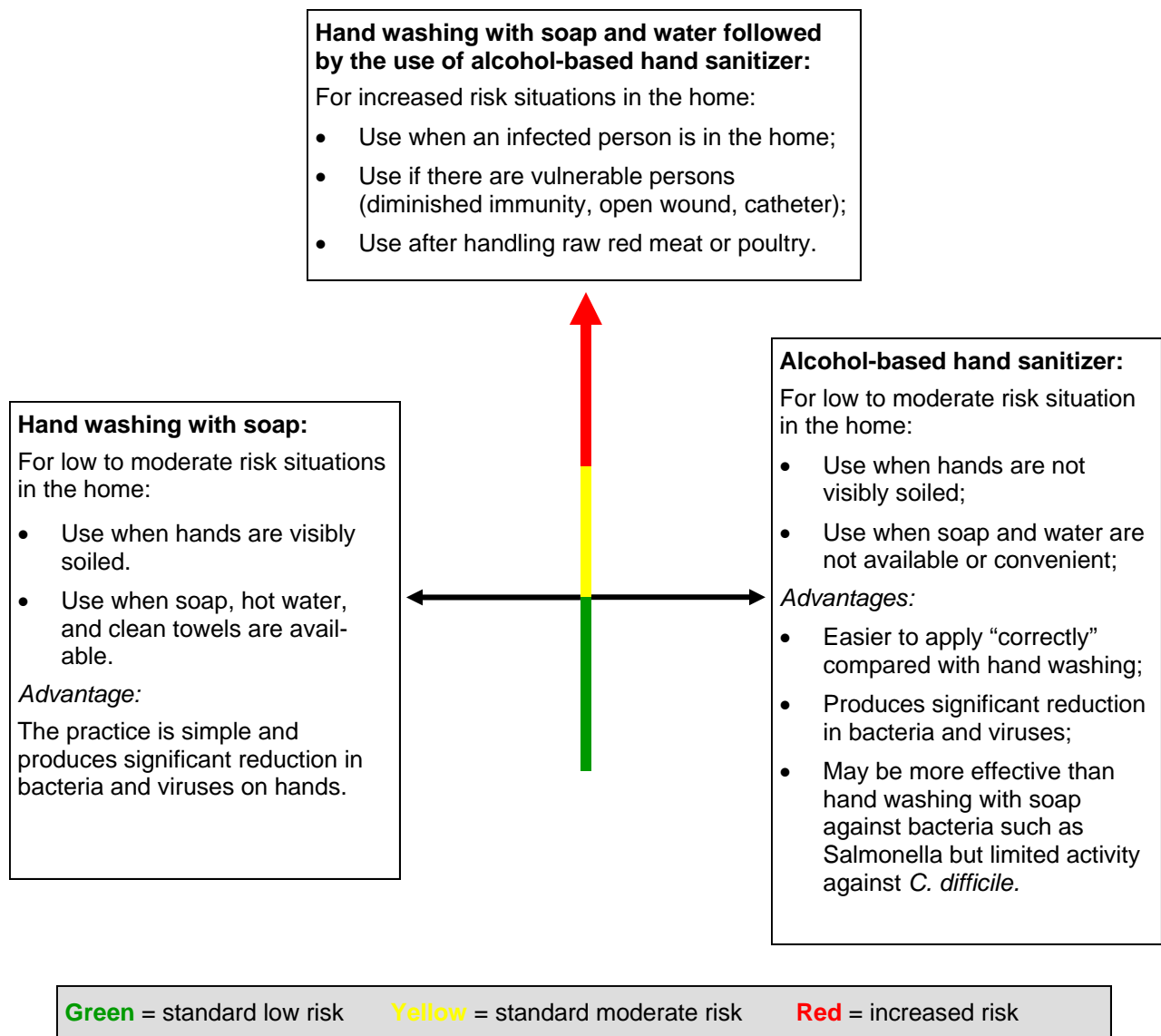
Hand Hygiene in the Home—Effective or Not?

Hand hygiene has long been known to reduce the risk of infections in health care settings, but how does it affect risk of transmission at home?

The December 2007 issue of the *American Journal of Infection Control* contains a supplement reviewing evidence on the impact of hand hygiene in the home and other community settings. This comprehensive 60-page document provides a wealth of data on the relationship between hygiene and rates of gastrointestinal illness, skin and wound infections, and infectious respiratory diseases.

Among the authors' recommendations are to select a hand hygiene method (soap and water vs. alcohol hand sanitizers) based on low, moderate, or high risk situations. The excerpted figure below summarizes how to choose the most appropriate hand hygiene procedure in the home. Note that there are situations in which use of the alcohol-based hand sanitizer is recommended **in addition to** washing with soap and water.

The authors emphasize the importance of providing this information to the general public.



Bloomfield SF, Aiello AE, Cookson B, O’Boyle D, Larson, EL. The effectiveness of hand hygiene procedures in reducing the risks of infections in home and community settings including hand washing and alcohol-based hand sanitizers. *AJIC* 2007; 35: S27-S64.