

P2658 Hand hygiene compliance rates among healthcare workers in a university hospital: a perspective through 2014-2017

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Background: Healthcare-associated infections (HCAI) are major risk factors for patient safety and one of the most important reasons for increased hospital stay, treatment costs, morbidity and mortality. Hand hygiene (HH) is one of the most cost effective and simple ways to prevent and reduce HCAI. The aim of this study was to determine the HH compliance of the occupational groups in the intensive care units between the years 2014 and 2017.

Materials/Methods: A prospective, observational study assessed the in-hospital care HH compliance among doctors and nurses and auxiliary staff in 7 intensive care units (Pediatrics, Neonatal, Internal Medicine, Anesthesia and Reanimation, Chest Diseases, Neurology and Cardiovascular Surgery ICU), of our setting. Unblinded observations were performed by infection control nurses determined based on the World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines and according to the WHO5 indications between 2014 and 2017. Practical HH training was continued during the HH observations of employees at ICU in our hospital. In addition, personal feedback was given to individuals with high and low HH compliance.

Results: A total of 20386 HH opportunity (2014: 5695, 2015: 5307, 2016: 4563, 2017: 4821) observations were made. In the first period of 2014, the rate of HH compliance was 25.6%. The HH compliance rate of all employees was as following: 2014: 34%, 2015: 55.7%, 2016: 55.7% and 2017: 61%. According to occupations; HH compliance rates were found to range between 37% and 70% in nurses, 20 and 51% in auxiliary healthcare personnel, and 28 and 49% in doctors.

Conclusions: In our hospital compliance with HH rules increased from relatively poor levels to relatively average levels via continuous efforts. Further supportive studies are needed to increase HH compliance rates to >70%.

