

# COMPLIANT HANDS

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this project is to improve hand hygiene compliance among ML PACU staff with the implementation of a personal hand hygiene device and hand hygiene campaign. The aim of this is to see what is the effect of a personal hand sanitizer on hand hygiene compliance among ML PACU staff as compared to standard practice?

**Background:** Hand hygiene is among the most highly recommended strategies for prevention of hospital acquired infections. Increasing the hand hygiene among PACU staff will decrease the likelihood of a hospital acquired infection. This project matters in the pacu because baseline data showed a compliance rate of 40%-60% in respected areas. Data collection also demonstrated poor logistical layout of open bay patient care areas in relation to wall mounted hand gel dispensers and sinks.

**Methods:** Utilizing UCSF's infection control hand hygiene monitoring tool and the CDCs "Five Moments for Hand Hygiene", baseline hand hygiene data was collected. A total of ten separate RNs and ten separate PCAs from each section of PACU were audited for hand hygiene compliance opportunities for a period of two weeks. After baseline data was collected a hand hygiene awareness campaign was instituted which consisted of dividing patient care areas into zones, hand hygiene computer screen savers, hand hygiene e-mail reminders, hand hygiene staff meeting reminders, engaging key stake holders and unit leaders, the distribution of the hand sanitizers, and a friendly "competition" between PACU PCAs and RNs for best hand hygiene compliance rates.

**Results:** An overall increase in hand hygiene was observed among ML PACU PCAs and RNs. Nurses also voiced interested in continuing the use of the personally worn hand gel dispensers.

**Conclusion:** Given the results and voiced interest by staff this innovation should be sustained in the ML PACU and trailed on other units of UCSF Medical Center. Major challenges for this project were engaging stake holders, acquiring the product, and sustaining interest and change in practice. Major successes were an increase in hand hygiene compliance and voiced interest in continuing the project by PACU staff. Some limitations to consider are funding and that this was a performance improvement project, not a research project. Plans for disseminating the project results include an evidence based practice fellows presentation, abstract poster, executive summary, and PACU staff meeting presentation.

