



Getting Ready! Announcement of the 1st phase of Canada's Hand Hygiene Campaign

October 15, 2007

The Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI) is pleased to announce the *Getting Ready* phase of Canada's Hand Hygiene campaign aimed at getting organizations ready to adopt and measure hand hygiene practices and compliance within their organizations. This multimodal strategy is based on the World Health Organization's challenge *Clean Care is Safer Care* initiative launched worldwide two years ago aimed at raising awareness that healthcare associated infections are an important priority for patient safety.

As part of this launch announcement, CPSI is pleased to confirm that the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MoHLTC), who have just finished testing and evaluating a multi-faceted strategy aimed at improving healthcare provider hand hygiene, will be lending their expertise to Canada's Hand Hygiene Campaign to measure hand hygiene compliance. The MoHLTC strategy, developed in collaboration with provincial, national and international experts, has already shown a steady increase in hand hygiene compliance during its pilot phase.

CPSI is also pleased to announce that it is partnering with the MoHLTC to provide train-the-trainer sessions on the 'four moments' of hand hygiene and a tool for participating sites to measure hand hygiene compliance. Health care providers and observers will be trained to understand the four key moments for hand hygiene that include:

- Before contact with patient or patient environment
- Before aseptic procedure
- After exposure to body fluids
- After contact with patient or patient environment

Ontario's observation and measurement tool and training program are local adaptations of the World Health Organization's strategy to simplify indications for hand hygiene. The train-the-trainer sessions will be offered beginning January 2008. Information on these sessions will be posted on the campaign website (www.handhygiene.ca) in December 2007.

CPSI is also extremely pleased to announce as part of the launch that it has signed a major agreement with 3M Infection Prevention, the international diversified technology company renowned for serving customers and communities with innovative products and services, to participate in the co-development of a human factor project that will include identifying where hand hygiene products should be located at point of care as well provide key tools for CEO and healthcare professional engagement in hand hygiene.

CPSI is also very happy to confirm its partnership with Discovery Campus, an innovative, interactive web community offering high-quality online Continuing Medical Education to healthcare professionals worldwide, in the production of an online learning module for healthcare professionals available for participating campaign sites. Another sponsor to the campaign is Hygiene-Technik Inc. who has been specializing in the design, development, and manufacturing of hand care dispensing systems for 40 years.

To join Canada's Hand Hygiene Campaign by *Getting Ready!* please register at www.handhygiene.ca.

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