

Hand Hygiene

Hand-washing is the single most important way to prevent infections in the hospital setting. Clean hands can save lives. That is why Olean General Hospital (OGH) and Bradford Regional Medical Center (BRMC) Infection Prevention teamed up to request feedback on healthcare worker hand hygiene perception. With the support of leadership, a survey was sent out to all healthcare workers in an effort to identify opportunities for improvement related to hand hygiene compliance. Responses were analyzed and the results shared with staff in a brief video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KC4tiK6Ltho&rel=0>.

OGH and BRMC are proud of our efforts to prevent infections. Infection prevention, along with the assistance of the hospital's safety champions and "secret shoppers", works to create a safe environment for our patients, staff and visitors by completing visual observations of staff compliance with hand hygiene and completing "Just In Time" education when a missed opportunity has been identified.

At OGH our current overall hand hygiene compliance is 94% before contact with a patient and 95% after contact. This is felt to attribute to our low infection rates including surgical site infections, urinary catheter infections and blood stream infections. We know that practicing good hand hygiene and supporting other patient safety initiatives keeps everyone safe. At BRMC our current hand hygiene compliance is 94% before and after patient contact.

OGH and BRMC Infection Prevention would like to remind our patients to Speak Up for your care and encourages you to ask your healthcare worker and any visitor you receive if they have washed their hands