

# Hand Hygiene Audit Tool

- The Audit Tool is designed to record 20 opportunities for Hand Hygiene on a monthly basis.
- An opportunity is classed as one of the 5 Moments for Hand Hygiene.
- One auditor should carry out each month's audit in full. If there are more auditors in the ward they can audit one month each.
- The proportions of staff opportunities audited should be approx as follows:
  - 1) Nurse - 10
  - 2) Medical - 3
  - 3) AHP - 4
  - 4) Others - 3
- There does not need to be 20 individual staff members, each staff member can have different opportunities and tasks.
- Each column in the Tool should be completed, utilising the Keys found on the right hand side.
- Audit is based on observation of practice. An opportunity must be observed to be recorded.
- Two opportunities from one episode of hand hygiene can be observed when staff move from one patient to another and clean their hands in between.
- The auditor may have to follow staff travelling between rooms to observe hand hygiene as it may not occur at the bedside, despite this being the ideal.
- Emergency situations where a patient is at risk of further harm should not be audited.
- Domestic staff should be audited after completing a task in a room or bay, not between bed spaces.
- If unsafe practice is observed the auditor must stop and challenge the staff member as soon as possible. If they feel unable to do so, the Senior Charge Nurse should intervene.

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if you have any queries.