



## **Patient Safety Tool: Hand Hygiene Questionnaire for Staff**

By Rob Kurtz | July 19, 2011

A hand hygiene joint project between the Department of Veterans Affairs and 3M produced a number of valuable tools that used the Six Sigma process, including a free, downloadable questionnaire for measuring local perceptions and attitudes regarding hand hygiene in healthcare settings.

Download the hand hygiene questionnaire developed for the VA-3M Six Sigma project (doc) and adapt it for use in your facility.

<http://www.patientsafety.gov/SafetyTopics/HandHygiene/HHQuestionnaire.doc>

If you are going to use the questionnaire in your facility, here are some points VA suggests you consider:

- If you are going to observe the quantity of alcohol-based hand rub used, it's best to do the observations before distributing the questionnaire.
- The questionnaire has the potential to raise awareness, thus making your baseline observed level of hand hygiene compliance higher than it was prior to issuing the questionnaire.
- Another interesting point is that during the project and in other published studies, a large disconnect between the self-reported compliance and the observed compliance was noted.
- People don't seem to realize hand hygiene opportunities are being missed. For example, before and after patient contact or after removing gloves.

Source: VA