



# WHO Headquarters infection prevention and control global webinar

5 May World Hand Hygiene Day: *Action saves lives!*

Please join us: 5 May 2026, 14:00-15:30 CET

[Register here](#)



## INTRODUCTION:

For World Hand Hygiene Day 2026, WHO calls on all those providing and supporting health care to refresh their action on hand hygiene and infection prevention and control (IPC), to ensure patient and health worker safety.

A substantial proportion of avoidable infections acquired during health care delivery could be prevented if hand hygiene and IPC action were taken at the correct times. Such action provides a high return on investment within health system expenditure and a significant positive effect on health outcomes for countries.

This session aims to highlight the importance of taking action to improve hand hygiene and IPC in health care and examples of global advancement.

## Objectives:

- **To promote inclusion of hand hygiene** within national IPC action plans, as well as standard operating procedures at facility level
- **To raise awareness** about the WHO global action plan and monitoring framework indicator on hand hygiene compliance monitoring and feedback
- **To highlight examples** of IPC and hand hygiene improvements **and encourage country action.**

## AGENDA

Session chairperson:

Paul Rogers, Program manager, Quality of care & Patient safety (QPS), WHO Headquarters

Time	Topic	Speaker
2:00 pm	Opening and introduction	Benedetta Allegranzi  Director, Department of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention and Control, WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office
2:05 pm	Hand hygiene – how is the world doing in 2026? <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Why is this so important?</li><li>• Global picture</li><li>• Key messages and considerations for implementation</li></ul>	Mandy Deeves  IPC Technical officer, QPS, WHO Headquarters
2:15 pm	Introducing the ECDC hand hygiene monitoring app - HyFive	Katerina Mougkou  Expert, Antimicrobial resistance and health care-associated infections, European Centers for Communicable Disease Prevention & Control

2:30 pm	Hand hygiene and IPC improvement in action: 4 examples	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Implementation of HHA in 13 pacific island countries ( Margaret Leong, Fiji)</li> <li>2) Improved access to water for hand hygiene using WASHFIT (Ahmad Al Barmawi, Jordan)</li> <li>3) Using implementation science to improve hand hygiene (Maria Teresa Perez-Rodriguez, Spain)</li> <li>4) Artificial intelligence in hand hygiene (Silvana Gastaldi, Italy)</li> </ol>
3:15 pm	Optimizing advocacy and action – use of WHO resources	<p>Claire Kilpatrick</p> <p>IPC Consultant, QPS, WHO Headquarters</p>
3:25 pm	Closing summary	TBA