

Hand Sanitizer/ Alcohol-Based Hand Rub (ABHR)

Policy & Procedure

Policy:

This facility will adhere to CDC and FDA guidance regarding the use of alcohol-based hand rub/sanitizers (ABHR) and will not permit hand sanitizers containing methanol to be used in the center.

General Considerations:

- The CDC recommends using ABHR with 60-95% alcohol or isopropanol in healthcare settings.
- Unless hands are visibly soiled, alcohol-based hand rub is preferred over soap and water in most situations for better compliance. (Refer to hand hygiene policy.)
- ABHR dispensers will not be installed within one inch in any direction of an ignition source or with less than a 48-inch distance between dispensers.

Procedure:

1. Hand sanitizer will be purchased through an approved/contracted vendor and will include a complete list of ingredients.
2. Upon delivery, central supply personnel will be responsible for opening and checking the hand sanitizer labels to ensure compliance with this policy and FDA/CDC recommendations to not have a presence of methanol, or wood alcohol.
3. Products will be checked with the FDA list of hand sanitizers that should not be used.*
<https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-updates-hand-sanitizers-methanol>
4. Staff are not permitted to bring personal hand sanitizer into the center for use during the provision of care.
5. Staff will be provided with ongoing education on the use of hand sanitizers during the provision of care.
6. Central supply is responsible for distributing approved hand sanitizer in adequate supplies to meet the needs of each staff member and resident.
7. A back-up supply of hand sanitizer will be maintained in the nursing office for access during evenings, weekends and holidays.
8. In the event hand sanitizer is not available, the nurse on call will be notified and will make arrangements to have supplies delivered.
9. Ongoing monitoring for compliance with hand sanitizer use and product ingredients will be maintained through the QAPI committee.

**The FDA does not approve hand sanitizers; any product labeled "FDA-approved" is fraudulent.*
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/hcp/hand-hygiene.html>

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This policy and procedure is not intended to replace the informed judgment of individual physicians, nurses or other clinicians nor is it intended as a statement of prevailing community standards or minimum standards of practice. It is a suggested method and technique for achieving optimal health care, not a minimum standard below which residents necessarily would be placed at risk.

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I have read, understand and agree to adhere to the requirements outlined in this policy and procedure.

Administrator Signature: _____ Date: _____

Medical Director Signature: _____ Date: _____

Review Dates: _____

SAMPLE