Prevention of cross contamination!



National Dental Centre Singapore

SingHealth

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Project Sponsor : Ms Lorraine Johnson Project Leader : DSA Dai Ruina Members : Siti NurHabsah Mansoor, Sri Shamila Dewi, Nurkhilda Roslan, Nur Atiqah Imran, Siti Rahmah Kamis, Aisha Begum Hussein

INTRODUCTION

Patients are often seen leaving the operatory with dirty hands after treatment as most are not used to practicing proper hand hygiene such as washing their hands, performing alcohol hand rub after touching their teeth, dentures or other removable appliances.

OBJECTIVES

The team aims to create awareness and increase compliance of hand hygiene for patients.

UNDERSTANDING THE ROOT CAUSES

The team analysed the causes to the problem and the reasons identified are as follows :

- •Patient is not aware of hand hygiene protocol
- Patient is not aware of the importance of hand hygiene
- Patient is unaware of the consequence of poor hand hygiene
 Patient is not aware of availability of hand rub



PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS

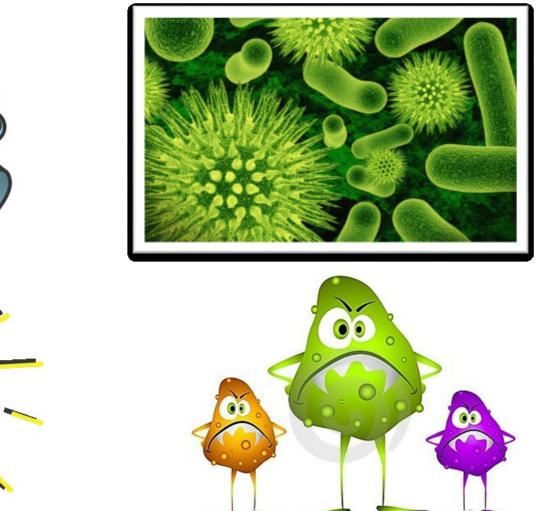
- The team brainstormed for possible interventions to increase the awareness and compliance of hand hygiene among patients.
- The following interventions were implemented:
- To politely educate patient on the importance of hand hygiene.
- To put up an additional hand rub in every operatory right next to the door, to make it convenient for patients to clean their hands before leaving the operatory.
- To display poster next to the hand rub so that patients know what it is for- Figure 1.
- DSA to remind patient to perform hand rub before leaving the operatory.

SUSTAINABILITY AND SPREAD

The team is monitoring the compliance rate and gathering feedback from patients. The interventions will be spread to other clinic floors once the results are proven sustainable and favorable.







Clean Hands vs Dirty hands