



Singapore Healthcare Management 2016

Raising Hand Hygiene Awareness through Annual Hand Hygiene Celebration Event

Chew Junfang, SHHQ
 Zheng Zeyu, SHHQ
 Dr Ling Moi Lin, SGH
 Dr Chua Ying Ying, SKH
 Ng Mee Yoke, SHHQ



Singapore General Hospital



Sengkang Health

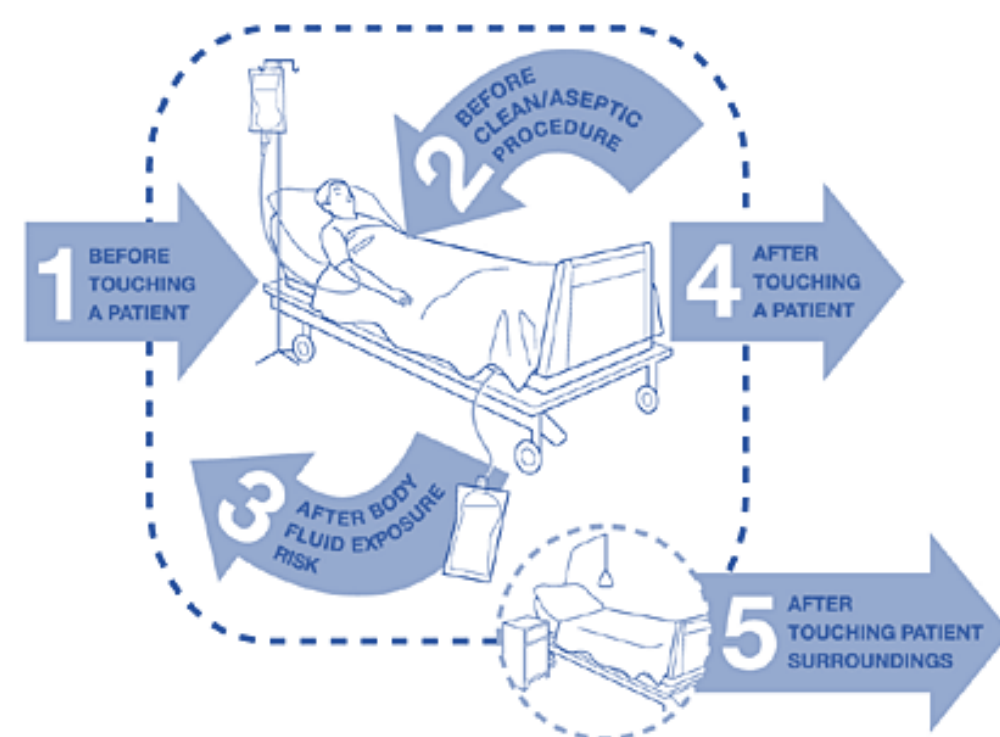
INTRODUCTION

“Clean Care is Safer Care” was launched by World Health Organisation (WHO) in 2005 with the aim to promote hand hygiene practices globally to reduce healthcare-associated infections (HCAIs) enhancing patient safety. WHO celebrates Hand Hygiene Day on 5 May every year.

With the release of WHO Guidelines on Hand Hygiene in Healthcare – First Global Patient Safety Challenge Clean Care is Safer Care (2009), Healthcare Organizations around the world has embarked on programs to create awareness of Hand Hygiene among healthcare workers, hospital administrators and health authorities in preventing HCAIs.

5 key moments for Hand Hygiene are as follows:

- Before touching a patient
- Before clean/aseptic techniques
- After body fluid exposure/risk
- After touching patient
- After touching patient surroundings



5 Moments of Hand Hygiene

How can we raise the awareness of the importance of Hand Hygiene at SingHealth?

METHODOLOGY

The Annual SingHealth Hand Hygiene Event is an initiative of the SingHealth Infection Control & Prevention Workgroup (SICPW), one of the five Centres of Excellence (CoE) under SingHealth’s Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Framework. SingHealth has been holding this event for 3 years from 2014 to 2016.

The aim of the Event is to promote awareness of the importance of Hand Hygiene in assuring patient and staff safety and improve Hand Hygiene Compliance at SingHealth.

The Event consist of three major components:

SITUATION ANALYSIS

WHO Hand Hygiene Self-Assessment Framework was adopted to obtain a situation analysis of hand hygiene promotion and practices within SingHealth Institutions. It was done by Infection Control Nurses of each institution.

The Framework includes 5 components, naming: (i) System Change; (ii) Training and Education; (iii) Evaluation and Feedback; (iv) Reminders in Workplace; (v) Institutional Safety Climate for Hand Hygiene.

IDENTIFICATION OF GAPS

A cluster-wide online Hand Hygiene Climate Survey was conducted annually on SingHealth Intranet to identify gaps for addressing and areas for improvement in Hand Hygiene at SingHealth Institutions.



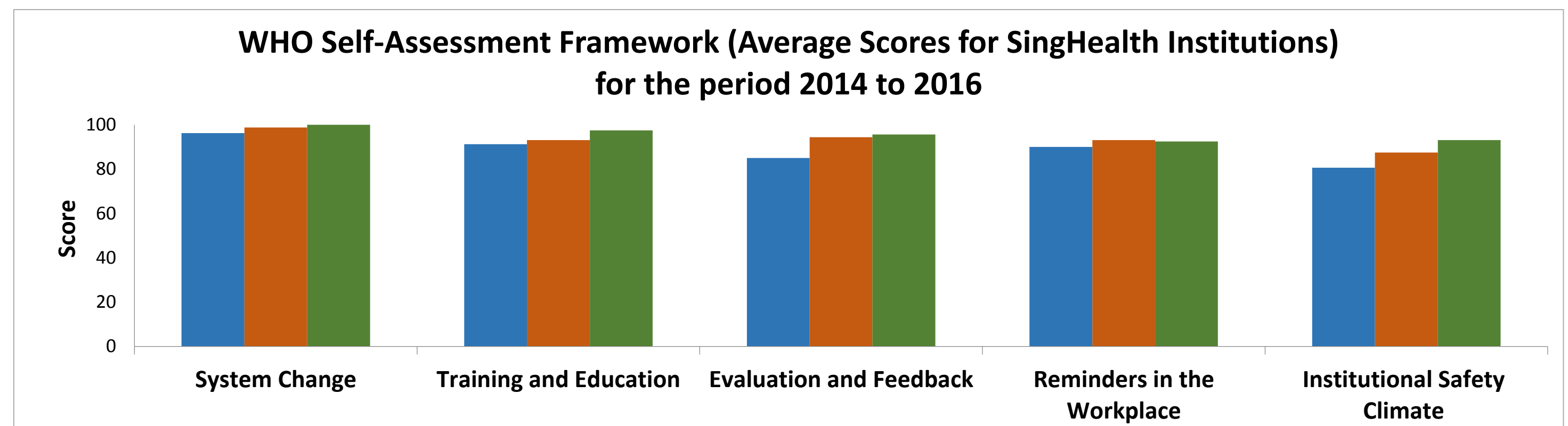
RAISING AWARENESS

Hand Hygiene Activities carried out at SingHealth and Institutional Levels to raise the awareness of the importance of hand hygiene among staff and public.



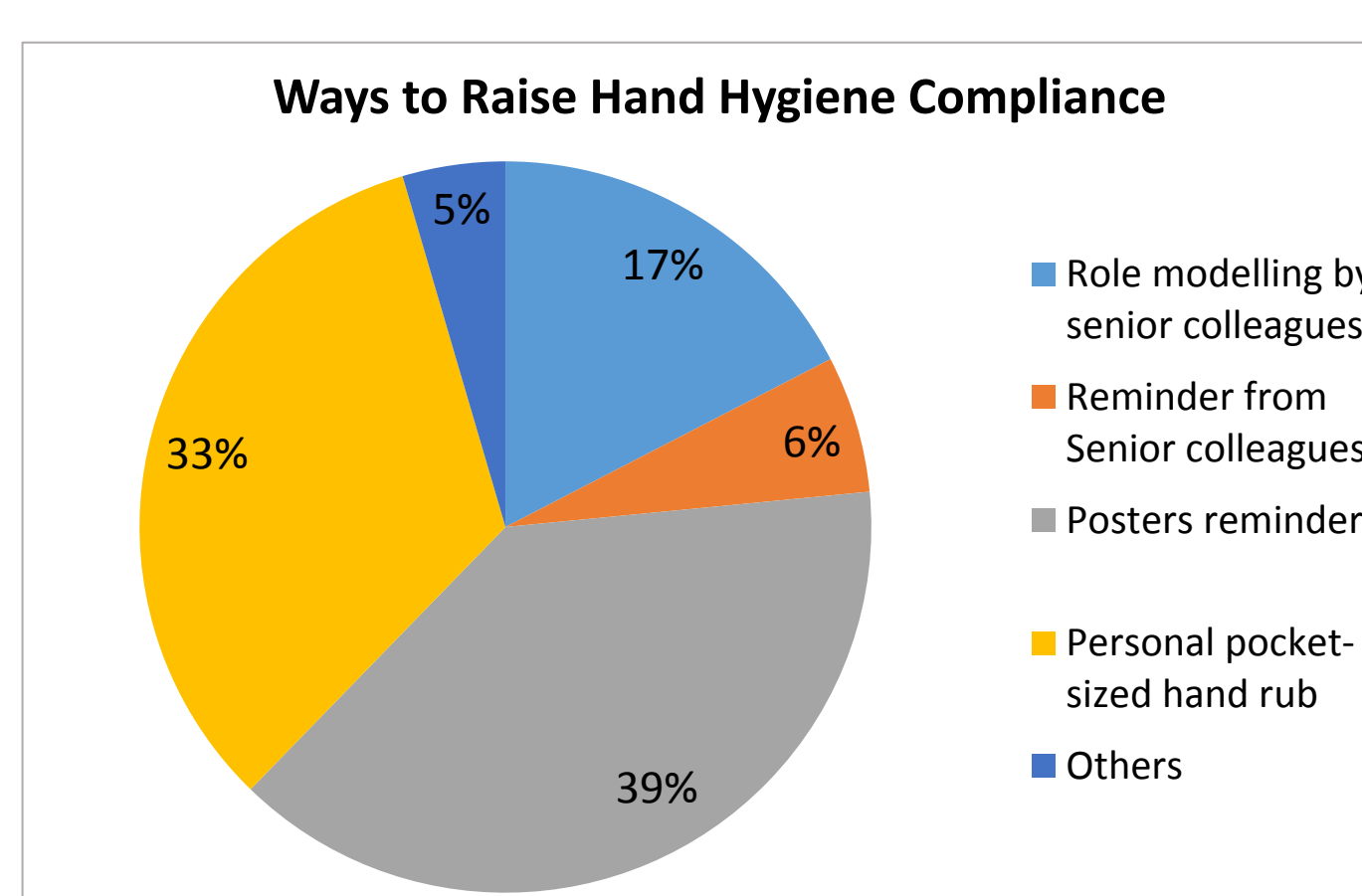
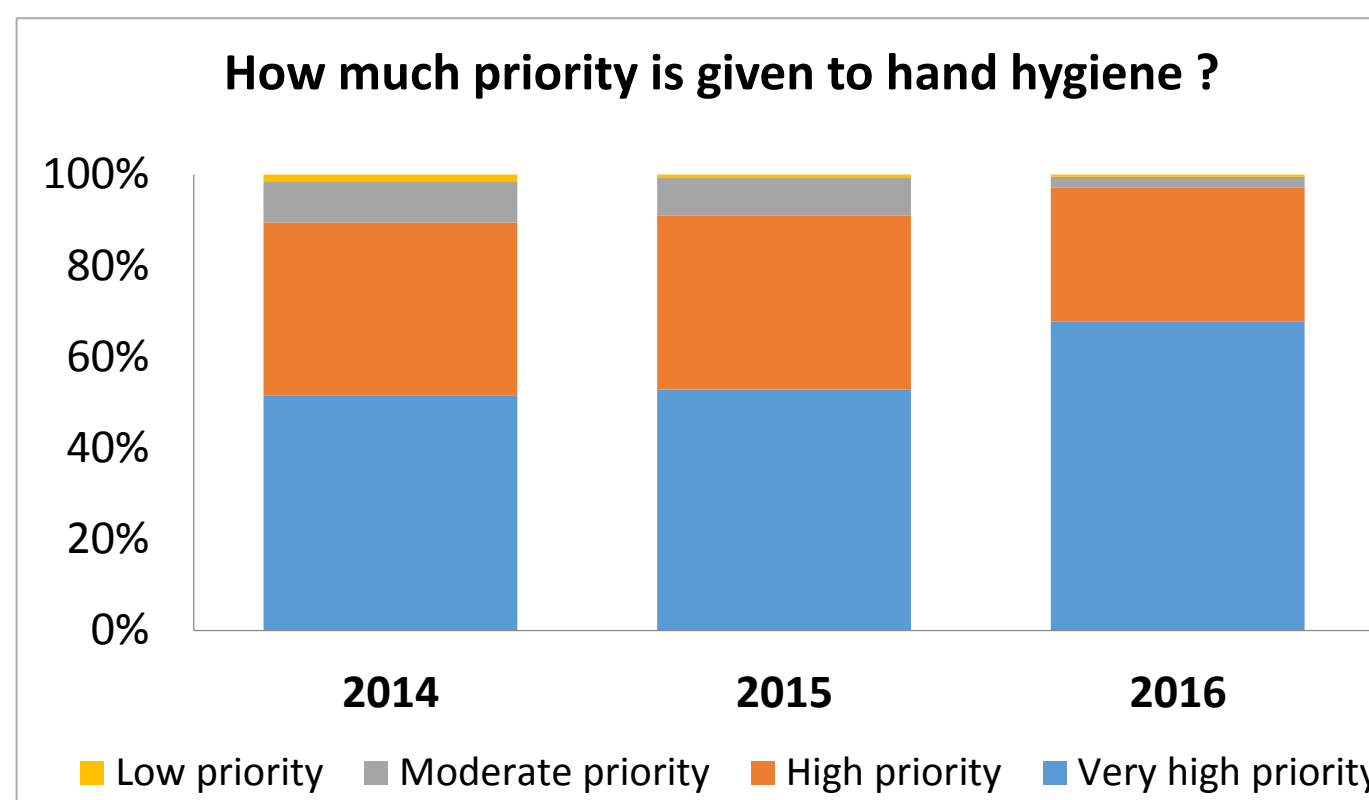
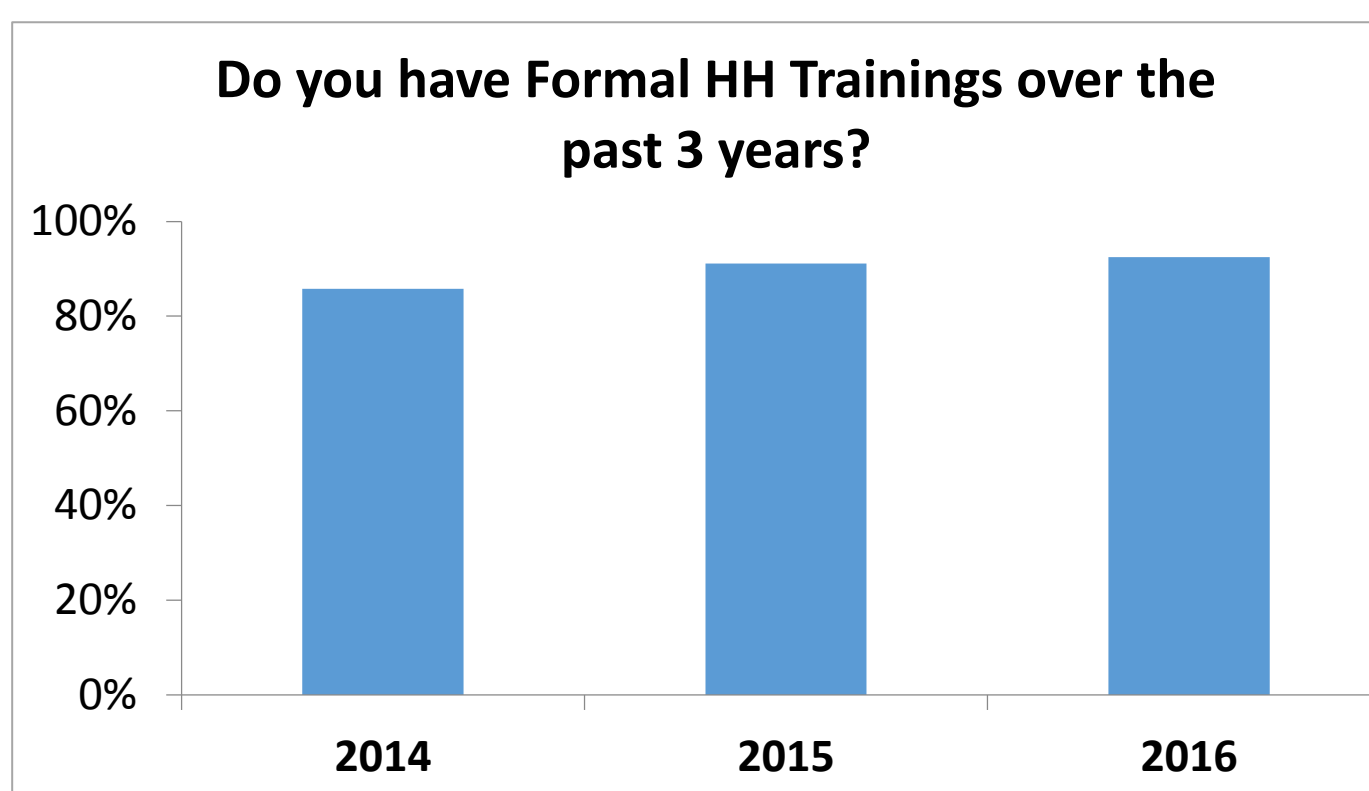
RESULTS

SITUATION ANALYSIS: WHO SELF-ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK



All SingHealth Institutions’ Hand Hygiene Level falls under the “Advanced” Level (hand hygiene promotion and optimal hand hygiene practices have been sustained and/or improved). Improvements were observed for all five components over the past 3 years. The biggest improvement was seen in “Institutional Safety Climate” from 80.6 to 94.3.

IDENTIFICATION OF GAPS: HAND HYGIENE CLIMATE SURVEY



ANALYSIS OF SURVEY RESULTS

- 1059, 668 and 1062 responses were received for the Hand Hygiene Climate Survey 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively
- More than 80% of the respondents had formal Hand Hygiene training, and the rate continues to increase for the past 3 years. By 2016, it has increased to 92%.
- More than 90% of the respondents gave “Very High” or “High” Priority to Hand Hygiene. The rate even reached 97% in 2016.
- Some preferred ways to raise Hand Hygiene Awareness were:
 - Reminders (from poster and colleagues) was preferred by most participants (45%)
 - Provision of personal pocket-sized hand rub (33%)
 - Role modeling by senior colleagues (17%)
 - 5% gave their own opinions & these have been or will be incorporated into the institutional hand hygiene programmes.

The Hand Hygiene culture at SingHealth has improved in various areas over the past 3 years. Majority of the respondents are well equipped with the knowledge and understand the importance of Hand Hygiene.

RAISING AWARENESS: HAND HYGIENE ACTIVITIES

2014



Inaugural SingHealth Hand Hygiene Event

2015



Obtained Certificate for recognition from WHO for completion of Hand Sanitizing Relay

2016



Production of Hand Hygiene related video uploaded on SingHealth Intranet and YouTube

CONCLUSION

The Annual Event has helped to generate awareness in hand hygiene practices collectively as a healthcare cluster, identify gaps for addressing and promote cross institution sharing & learning.

Acknowledgements

This initiative was fully supported by the dedicated Chairs and members of the SingHealth Hand Hygiene Day Organising Committee (2014 to 2016).

Many thanks to Prof Fong Kok Yong (Chairman of SICPW 2014-2016), Prof Peter Lim (Group Chief Risk Officer, SingHealth) and Mrs Tan May Yan (Assistant Director, Office of Risk Services, SingHealth) for their guidance and support.

References

1. WHO Guidelines on Hand Hygiene in Healthcare, WHO 2009
2. Impact of a Hospital-wide Hand Hygiene Promotion Strategy on Healthcare-associated Infections, Ling and How, ARIC Journal 2012