



Template email to announce your intentions for SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands, May 2010

You are likely to have a centralized system for cascading important information throughout your national, regional and local health-care contacts. We ask that you use this system to announce **SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands** - 5 May 2010; formalize your support; and encourage everyone to work proactively to improve hand hygiene in health care.

To assist you, we have drafted a template e-mail which you can tailor to suit your circumstances, audience and opportunities. It can be sent to health-care workers and other stakeholders in your region.

<Insert your logo/letterhead/contact details>

Dear Colleague,

The World Health Organization (WHO) is committed to an important global hand hygiene movement, the **SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands** initiative, which includes a global call to action for health-care facilities. Hand hygiene is one of the main measures to reduce health care-associated infection (HAI) and, as such, this evidence based initiative has been developed to support health-care workers to improve hand hygiene and stop the spread of infection.

The tools provided by **SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands**, to build on and support any locally available tools and activities, will enable all health-care workers to bring better care to patients through improved patient safety. I am writing to inform you of this initiative and to invite you to make use of the information, resources and opportunity provided.

This year sees the second annual global call to action on 5 May 2010, led by WHO.

Get involved

<highlight any hand hygiene activities you may have planned for the date or thereafter, to which your audience should be aware>

Targets

We are aiming to achieve <highlight your national / regional / local targets for improving hand hygiene and eradicating health care-associated infections>. The **SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands** website houses a number of tools, including a template action plan, that will enable all health-care facilities to proactively work toward achieving these targets regardless of their current levels of activity and resources and based on a multimodal improvement strategy.

SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands is an important global hand hygiene initiative. Please familiarise yourselves with the information it provides. <summarize any additional local messages and actions required here>.

From now until 5 May 2010, more information will be forthcoming to support all of our efforts towards saving lives through clean hands.

Kind regards,

<add name>

<add title / position>

<organization>

<contact details>

Visit WHO's website for all **SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands** information: www.who.int/gpsc/5may/en