



MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LONG-TERM CARE

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Ministry Programs

Influenza Pandemic

Faith Groups : Hand Hygiene Protocol

Provincial Status
ENHANCED

Hand hygiene is the single most important thing we can all do to prevent the transmission of infection, including influenza.

Hand hygiene includes hand washing at a sink with soap and water and/or using alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

You should practice hand hygiene on a regular basis, including in the following situations :

- After coughing or sneezing
- After blowing your nose and using facial tissue
- After using the washroom
- After touching any body fluids
- After changing diapers
- After shaking hands and touching shared surfaces or objects
- Before touching/eating food or drinking
- Before and after caring for the sick
- Whenever your hands are dirty

Faith leaders may want to consider promoting hand hygiene within their community. This could be accomplished through the following means :

- Posting signage around facilities (e.g., washrooms, kitchens, etc.) promoting hand hygiene;
- Maintaining a stock of hand hygiene supplies in washrooms and kitchens (i.e., paper towels and pump liquid soap);
- Making alcohol-based hand sanitizer available where people congregate, in situations where multiple people touch communal

religious objects, and before and after "hand" contact; and,

- Supplying facial tissue and extra garbage cans for disposal at meetings, etc.


A sample hand hygiene protocol that can be posted around your facility (e.g., washrooms, kitchens, etc.) is available for download below.

Document download

[Handwashing Protocol](#)

1 page | 54 kb | PDF format

To view PDF format files, you need to have Adobe Acrobat® Reader installed on your computer.

 You can download this free software from the [Adobe Web site](#).

For More Information

Call **ServiceOntario**, Infoline at 1-866-532-3161

(Toll-free in Ontario only)

TTY 1-800-387-5559. In Toronto, TTY 416-327-4282

Hours of operation : 8:30am - 5:00pm

If you are a member of the media, call Communications and Information Branch at 416-314-6197 or visit our [News Room](#) section.

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