

Occupational Therapy Students

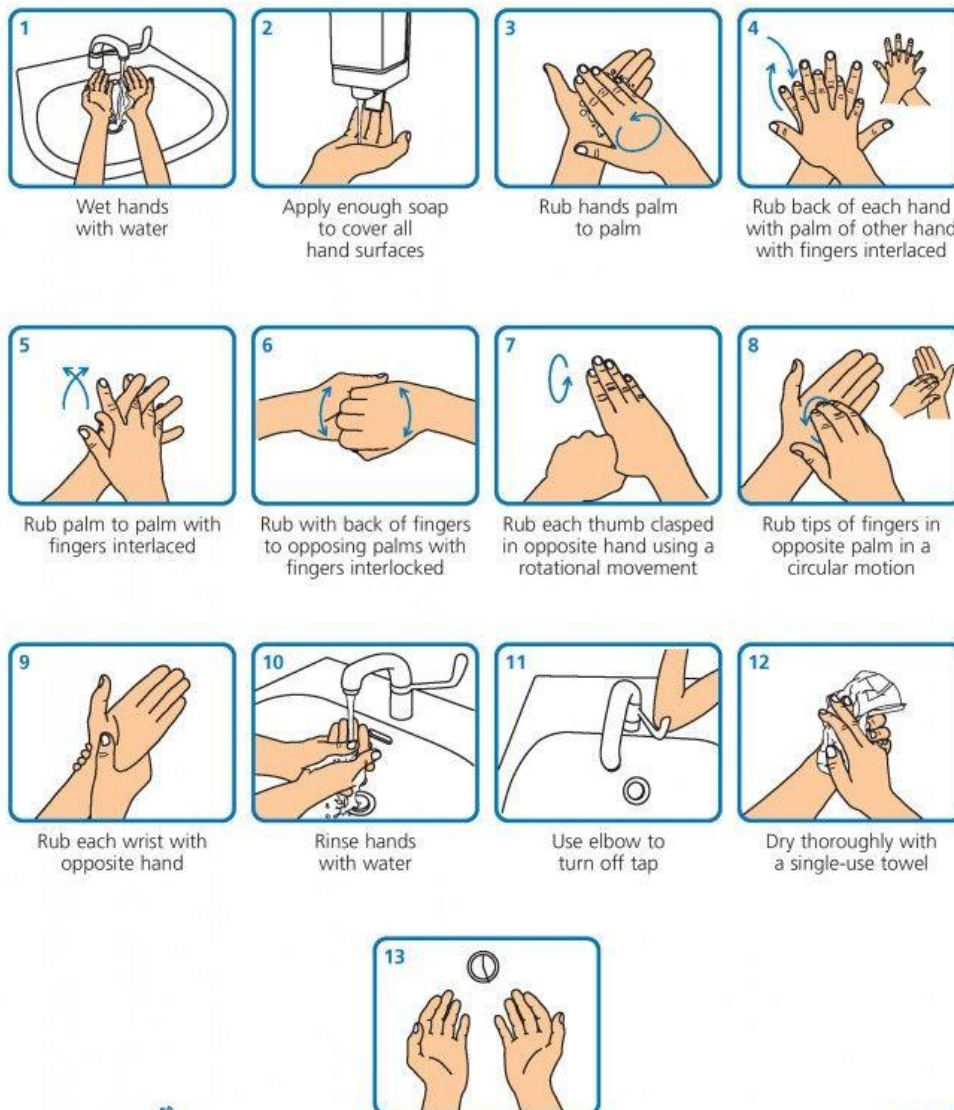
Hand Hygiene

Hand washing is the simplest and most effective way of controlling the spread of germs.

We all have a part to play in reducing and preventing infections in our hospitals - infection control is everyone's responsibility and is the Trust's number one clinical priority. Please play your part.



Hand-washing technique with soap and water



Staff should use alcohol gel:

- On entering a ward.
- On entering a bay or patient's room.
- Before and after skin contact with a patient.
- On leaving an isolation room.
- After removal of gloves.
- Before clean and aseptic procedures.

Staff should use soap and water:

- When hands are visibly dirty.
- If hands become contaminated.
- After visiting the toilet.
- Before an aseptic procedure.
- Before handling food.
- Before breaks.
- When looking after patients with *Colstridium Difficile*.

Staff must:

- Remove all stoned rings and bracelets when attending to patients.
- Remove wrist watches when in clinical areas.
- Cover all abrasions with a waterproof plaster.
- Wet hands before applying soap to minimise the drying effect.
- Dry hands thoroughly with paper towels.
- Use alcohol gel for rapid decontamination between patients.
- Use nail brushes for a surgical scrub or if nails are heavily soiled.
- Use the hand cream supplied in the wall mounted dispensers ONLY.
- Contact Occupational Health for advice regarding skin problems