Compliance of Healthcare Workers with Hand Hygiene Practices in the northeast of Iran: An Overt Observation

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ARTICLE INFO

Introduction: The purpose of this study was to analyze the compliance of hand hygiene and affecting factors among healthcare workers (HCWs) of hospitals in northeast Iran.

Materials and Methods: This study was conducted based on observation method for the compliance of hand hygiene according to the World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines. HCWs were observed during routine patient care in different shifts, also the technique of hand hygiene was assessed through assessment protocol.

Results: By direct observation, we evaluated a total of 92518 hand hygiene opportunities from 29 hospitals in the northeast of Iran. Our analysis show overall compliance rates of 43%. Compliance rates differed by role and in different wards.

Conclusion: in this observational study, we identified that adherence to hand hygiene practice and use of alcohol-based disinfectant was still low, so effective intervention programs to promote adherence to hand hygiene could be effective to increase compliance.

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