

Dear colleague,

I would like to invite you to attend a stakeholder consultation event regarding the expansion of the clean**your**hands campaign to care settings outside NHS acute hospitals.

The clean**your**hands campaign has been effective at raising the profile of hand hygiene and reducing healthcare acquired infection (HCAI) in acute hospitals. It will now be extended to a wider range of care settings – including primary care trusts, GP practices; community hospitals; nursing and care homes; ambulances; hospices; and dental surgeries – with the potential to make a real difference in reducing cross-transmission and preventing infections.

We are now seeking the views of staff working in the different care settings to ensure the campaign approach is effective, manageable and meets staff's needs. We would particularly like your views regarding how the approach needs to be adapted according to your organisation and care setting; what support and resources could potentially be provided nationally to assist local implementation; and how the momentum of the campaign can be sustained in the longer term with local ownership.

We very much hope that you and some of your colleagues or staff will be able to attend one of the stakeholder events. We are seeking the views of those people who would be involved in the organisation of the campaign such as directors with responsibility for infection control, infection control nurses, and risk management and health and safety staff.

We would also like the views of those staff working directly with patients and clients, across as wide a variety of settings as possible. This could include district nurses, community based allied healthcare professionals (physiotherapists, occupational therapists, podiatrists etc.) and health visitors; as well as those working in areas such as

prison healthcare, learning disability, mental health, public health nursing, emergency or out-of-hours care; and independent contractors such as general practitioners, practice nurses and pharmacists providing clinical services.

There are a number of events taking place across England and Wales (full list below) in mid January to early February 2007. Please attend whichever event is most convenient; we will cover expenses for those people attending their nearest event. Attending the nearest event to your organisation will help you to develop networks and exchange ideas with other nearby organisations also hoping to implement the campaign. If you are unable to attend your closest event, please contact us regarding alternative arrangements.

Tuesday 16 January, The Midland Hotel, Manchester

Wednesday 17 January, Novotel, Newcastle

Tuesday 23 January, Crowne Plaza NEC, Birmingham

Wednesday 24 January, Cambridge Belfry Hotel

Tuesday 30 January, The Dragon Hotel, Swansea

Wednesday 31 January, Devere Grand Hotel, Southampton

Tuesday 6 February, Radisson Edwardian Marlborough Hotel, London

We do hope you can attend as we would very much value your input in shaping the campaign. To confirm your attendance, please complete and return the enclosed form.

Please do not hesitate to contact the hand hygiene team on 020 7927 9892 or handhygiene@npsa.nhs.uk if you have any queries or need more information.

Kind regards



Paul Weaving

Safer Practice Lead for Infection Control

On behalf of the Hand hygiene improvement team