Media Release

5 May 2017



HAND HYGIENE FOCUS AT BETHESDA HEALTH CARE

As part of the World Health Organisation (WHO) World Hand Hygiene Day on 5 May 2017, Bethesda Health Care is celebrating this important day through staff education, and visitor information about hand hygiene.

WHO's primary focus for 2017 is the fight against antibiotic resistance in the context of hand hygiene and infection prevention and control (IPC) programmes.

At Bethesda Health Care, hand hygiene is one of the key components in the infection prevention and control program, and is central to providing high quality health care.

A large display in the hospital foyer features statistics about hand hygiene and staff dedication to maintaining their commitment to hand hygiene. There is a quiz open to staff and visitors plus a children's colouring-in competition about hand hygiene.

Bethesda Health Care utilises the Cutan range of hand hygiene products including a foaming alcohol skin sanitiser. Representatives from the Deb group will be visiting all clinical areas throughout the hospital as part of a hand hygiene 'travelling roadshow' providing education to staff.

Libby Oakes, Manager Infection Prevention and Control at Bethesda Health Care said that 'ongoing staff education and collaboration with our doctors maintains our hand hygiene practices throughout the hospital'.

'Our commitment to hand hygiene commenced several years ago upon the implementation of our hand hygiene project based on the recommendations of WHO and Hand Hygiene Australia (HHA). The hospital has received external international recognition for this project, and is a leader amongst WA health providers'.

For more information about the WHO World Hand Hygiene Day, please visit http://www.who.int/infection-prevention/campaigns/clean-hands/en/

Bethesda Health Care is an independent 88-bed award-winning hospital in Claremont who has been providing care and service to the Western Australian community for more than 70 years.

www.bethesda.org.au

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