# Interior Health Hand Hygiene Working Group

***PRINTED*** copies of the Terms of Reference may not be the most recent version.  
The ***OFFICIAL*** version is available on the InsideNet

***You will touch someone’s life today….Do it with clean hands!***

1. **PURPOSE**

To increase hand hygiene (HH) compliance and awareness within all Interior Health (IH) facilities, reduce the incidence of healthcare associated infections, and improve patient outcomes.

The Interior Health Hand Hygiene Working Group (IHHHWG) shall advise the use of correct hand hygiene practices taking into account the following:

* Consideration of the entire healthcare system, without limitation to institutional healthcare alone
* Protection of patients, visitors and health care providers
* Hand hygiene (HH) practice is to be evidence-based
* Hand hygiene observations will be conducted quarterly and reported as directed by the office of the Auditor General

1. **OBJECTIVES**
   1. Review hand hygiene statistics quarterly and make recommendations to Corporate Director of Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) based on the results of the observations
   2. Develop comprehensive training and education for both infection control professionals (ICPs) and front-line healthcare workers, including physicians, on the current hand hygiene program
   3. Adopt alcohol based hand rub (ABHR) at point of care
   4. Review IHHHWG literature yearly
   5. Review IHHHWG guideline and policy yearly
   6. Ensure that observation process is consistent throughout IH
   7. Create HH strategies for healthcare providers and patients
   8. Develop information for patients and families
2. **MEMBERSHIP**
   1. The Working Group will be chaired by the IH HH program lead
   2. Representation will come from across IH and will be based on the willingness and commitment to assist in achieving the program’s goals
   3. Different disciplines may be required depending on the initiative
   4. The following disciplines will be represented on the committee:

* Program Lead
* Infection Prevention & Control Practitioners (2)
* Epidemiologist
* Nursing (2)
* Housekeeping ( 1)
* Physician (1)
* Quality (1)
* Senior Management representative (1)
* Middle management (1)
* Surveillance Information Assistant (1)
* Coop students(2)
* Patient Representatives (2)
* Others may be invited by the committee as required - Communications, Food Services, Lab, Imaging, Community, Residential, Maintenance, Purchasing, Educator

1. **ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING**

* The IHHHWG will report, via the minutes to IPAC. A summary statement will go to the Corporate Director of IPAC who will discuss information at Infection Measurement Prevention and Control Team (IMPACT).
* The Vice President Medical/Quality is designated as the Senior Executive Team member responsible for the IHHHWG Program

1. **MEMBERS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Chair**

* Schedule meetings
* Prepare agenda to circulate to membership
* Facilitate meetings

**Membership**

* Attend meetings regularly
* Fully participate in activities
* Recommend additions to the agenda – whenever possible, adequate notice should

be given to the chair so that there is an opportunity to review the issue and provide background information to the members prior to the meeting

1. **MEETINGS**

* The IHHHWG will schedule regular quarterly meetings in February, May, August, and November with a minimum of 4 meetings per year or at the call of the chair
* Under normal circumstances the agenda and related material will be distributed to the members prior to the meeting
* All members are free to suggest additions to the agenda
* Minutes will be prepared on a timely basis for each meeting of the Hand Hygiene Working Group and will be made available to all members of the group within 1 week of the meeting

1. **DISTRIBUTION OF MEETING MINUTES**

* Interior Health Hand Hygiene Working Group
* Infection Prevention & Control (IPAC) Committee

1. **REVIEW OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The committee will review the Terms of Reference on a yearly basis and recommend any needed changes/additions.

**Reviewed and approved by the Interior Health Hand Hygiene Working Group** *August 11, 2017*