Canada’s Hand Hygiene Campaign

Canada’s Hand Hygiene Campaign and its theme - “STOP! Clean Your Hands” - introduced during the 2007 National Education Conference of the Community and Hospital Infection Control Association-Canada (CHICA-Canada) June 9-14 in Edmonton will be tested with select national healthcare institutions during the summer of 2007. The toolkit will then be refined and the full national campaign will be officially launched during the Canadian Healthcare Safety Symposium (Halifax 7) in Ottawa, October 10-13.

Why a national hand hygiene campaign?
The goal of Canada’s Hand Hygiene Campaign is to promote the importance of hand hygiene in reducing the occurrence of healthcare-associated infections in Canada.

The main objective is to respond to the needs of healthcare organizations for capacity building, leadership development, and/or the production of tools to help promote hand hygiene.

While the initiative is primarily aimed at healthcare providers in a variety of healthcare settings, patients and visitors to healthcare facilities are also part of the solution. The campaign will include media activities and special events to raise awareness of the importance of proper hand hygiene among Canadians and to encourage the adoption of effective hand hygiene practices. Experts in Infection Prevention and Control agree that while hand hygiene improvement efforts are underway in various regions and provinces, a national strategy is essential to ensure that consistent, reproducible and measurable improvements are achieved across the country.

Who we are?
The Canadian Patient Safety Institute, the Community and Hospital Infection Control Association - Canada, the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation, the Public Health Agency of Canada and are working together to develop and implement a pan-Canadian hand hygiene campaign that will support, supplement and integrate existing hand hygiene initiatives locally, regionally and provincially.
We would like to invite all organizations across Canada interested in participating as a pilot site for Canada’s Hand Hygiene Campaign. Pilot testing of the components of Canada’s Hand Hygiene Campaign will take place between July and September, 2007 in 10 sites across Canada.

Objective:
The main objective of the pilot testing is to evaluate and obtain feedback on the components of Canada’s Hand Hygiene Campaign prior to the official launch in October, 2007. Three toolkits, based on the WHO’s first Global Patient Safety Challenge: *Clean Care is Safer Care* initiative, have been developed and will target senior leaders, infection control and prevention professionals and unit managers in healthcare organizations across Canada.

Requirements from pilot sites:
If selected, pilot sites will agree to:
- Select two participating units within your organization
- Test and evaluate the ‘toolkit’ materials targeted to CEOs, infection prevention and control professionals and unit/clinical managers
- Conduct routine hand hygiene observations and collection

Selection of pilot sites:
A selection committee comprising members from the Infection Control Workgroup will evaluate and select 10 sites, based on the following criteria:
- Overall quality of letter of interest
- Evidence of senior level commitment and support
- Readiness to implement the toolkits
- Representative spread of organizations across the country
- Representative variety of organizations (i.e. size, tertiary, community, long-term care, etc)
- Not currently participating in a provincial hand hygiene campaign

For further details, please contact: Chantal Backman, Project Manager, Canadian Patient Safety Institute.

Email: cbackman@cpsi-icsp.ca or Phone: 613-875-0024

Please complete the attached letter of interest and fax to 613-730-7323 by June 29, 2007.
Canada’s Hand Hygiene Campaign
Letter of Interest

Date: __________

Yes, our organization is interested in participating:

Organization name: ________________________________
Address: _________________________________________
City/Prov./Postal Code: ______________________________

Briefly discuss your reasons for your interest in participating in the pilot test of Canada’s Hand Hygiene Campaign (from July-September 2007)

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Briefly describe recent or current hand hygiene initiatives (pilots will include organizations with previous HH initiatives and without)

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http://www.handhygiene.ca  http://www.lavagedesmains.ca
Contact Information

Chief Executive Officer:
Name (CEO): ____________________________________
Name (Assistant): ____________________________________
Phone number: ____________________________________
Email address: ____________________________________

Infection Control and Prevention Professional (if applicable):
Name: ____________________________________
Phone number: ____________________________________
Email address: ____________________________________

Participating Unit/Clinical Manager #1:
Unit: ____________________________________
Name: ____________________________________
Phone number: ____________________________________
Email address: ____________________________________

Participating Unit/Clinical Manager #2:
Unit: ____________________________________
Name: ____________________________________
Phone number: ____________________________________
Email address: ____________________________________

We plan to participate:

Signature (primary contact) ____________________________________
Title: ____________________________________
Date: ____________________________________

Signature (CEO) ____________________________________
Title: ____________________________________
Date: ____________________________________

(Both signatures are mandatory)