



## WASH IN HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Useful resources for use at national and facility level to support policy & practice  
Updated November 2021

### **2020 GLOBAL PUBLICATION:**

WHO/UNICEF, 2020. *Global progress report on WASH in health care facilities. Fundamentals First*. <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240017542>

Publication into Arabic, French, Spanish and Russian in progress.

### **POLICY**

**World Health Assembly 2019 Resolution on WASH in health care facilities**

[https://www.washinhcf.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/A72\\_R7-en.pdf](https://www.washinhcf.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/A72_R7-en.pdf)

### **DATA AND EVIDENCE**

WHO/UNICEF, 2019. *WASH in health care facilities: Global baseline report 2019*

<https://www.who.int/publications-detail-redirect/9789241515504>

Also available: [Arabic](#), [French](#), [Russian](#), [Spanish](#).

WHO/UNICEF (Joint Monitoring Programme) WASH data

<https://washdata.org/data/healthcare#!/>

WHO/UNICEF, 2019. *Monitoring WASH and related IPC in delivery rooms – draft module*

<https://washdata.org/report/jmp-2019-core-questions-delivery-rooms-draft>

WHO/UNICEF, 2015. *Water, sanitation and hygiene in health care facilities: status in low- and middle-income countries and way forward*. World Health Organization, Geneva. Note, this is superseded by the Global Baseline report 2019.

[https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/154588/9789241508476\\_eng.pdf](https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/154588/9789241508476_eng.pdf)

WHO, 2011. *Report on the Burden of Endemic Health Care-Associated Infection Worldwide*.

World Health Organization, Geneva.

[https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/80135/9789241501507\\_eng.pdf;jsessionid=7671D03BECE340084D262FFD720900B?sequence=1](https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/80135/9789241501507_eng.pdf;jsessionid=7671D03BECE340084D262FFD720900B?sequence=1)

### **GUIDANCE AND STANDARDS**

**Global guidance on WASH in HCF including targets and metrics for progress**

WHO/UNICEF, 2019. *WASH in health care facilities: Practical steps for universal access to quality care*. <https://www.who.int/publications-detail-redirect/9789241515511>

Also available: [French](#), [Spanish](#), [Russian](#), (Arabic coming soon)

## **Environmental health standards**

WHO, 2008. *Essential environmental health standards in health care*. World Health Organization, Geneva. <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241547239>

Also available: [French](#), [Russian](#) and [Spanish](#).

## **Water**

WHO, 2017. *Guidelines for drinking-water quality, 4<sup>th</sup> edition*. World Health Organization, Geneva. <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241549950>

WHO, 2007. *Legionella and the prevention of Legionellosis*. World Health Organization, Geneva. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/43233>

## **Sanitation**

WHO, 2018. *Guidelines on sanitation and health*. World Health Organization, Geneva. <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241514705>

Also available: [Arabic](#), [French](#), [Russian](#) and [Spanish](#).

WHO, 2020. *State of the World's Sanitation: An urgent call to transform sanitation for better health, environments, economies and societies*. World Health Organization, Geneva.

<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240014473>

## **Health care waste management**

WHO, 2014. *Safe management of wastes from health care activities*. Second Edition. World Health Organization, Geneva. <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241548564>

WHO, 2017. *Safe management of wastes from health care activities: a summary*. World Health Organization, Geneva. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/259491>

Also available: [French](#), [Russian](#)

WHO, 2019. *Overview of treatment technologies for infectious and sharp waste from health care facilities*. World Health Organization, Geneva.

<https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/328146>

Also available: [French](#), [Spanish](#)

## **Environmental cleaning**

CDC/ICAN 2019. *Best Practices for Environmental Cleaning in Healthcare Facilities in Resource-Limited Settings* [www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/resource-limited/environmental-cleaning-508.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/resource-limited/environmental-cleaning-508.pdf)

## **Hand hygiene**

WHO 2009, *Guidelines for hand hygiene in health care*

[https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/44102/9789241597906\\_eng.pdf?sequence=1](https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/44102/9789241597906_eng.pdf?sequence=1)

## **Maternal and child health**

WHO 2016. *Standards for improving quality of maternal and newborn care in health facilities*.

<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241511216>

## **Infection prevention and control, hand hygiene and AMR**

WHO, 2015. Global action plan on antimicrobial resistance  
<https://www.who.int/publications-detail-redirect/9789241509763>  
Available in [French](#), [Russian](#), [Spanish](#)

WHO 2016. Guidelines on core components of infection prevention and control programmes at the national and acute health care facility level. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/251730>

WHO 2017. Guidelines for the prevention and control of carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae, *Acinetobacter baumannii* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in health care facilities <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/259462/9789241550178-eng.pdf?sequence=1>

WHO, 2019. Turning plans into action for antimicrobial resistance (AMR) Working Paper 2.0: Implementation and coordination  
[https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/turning-plans-into-action-for-antimicrobial-resistance-\(-amr\)-working-paper-2.0-implementation-and-coordination](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/turning-plans-into-action-for-antimicrobial-resistance-(-amr)-working-paper-2.0-implementation-and-coordination)

WHO 2021. State of the World's Hand Hygiene. <https://www.who.int/publications-detail-redirect/9789240036444>

## **Emergencies**

WHO/WEDC, 2013. *Updated technical notes on WASH in emergencies (set of 15 notes)*. World Health Organization, Geneva. <https://www.who.int/teams/environment-climate-change-and-health/water-sanitation-and-health/environmental-health-in-emergencies/technical-notes-on-wash-in-emergencies>

WHO, 2002. *Environmental health in emergencies and disasters*. World Health Organization, Geneva. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/42561>

## **TOOLS AND MONITORING**

### **WASH FIT**

WHO/UNICEF 2018. *Water and Sanitation for Health Facility Improvement Tool (WASH FIT)*. <https://www.who.int/publications-detail-redirect/9789241511698>

Also available: [Arabic](#), [French](#), [Russian](#), [Spanish](#) (currently being updated, new version in Q1 2022).

WASH FIT portal [www.washinhcf.org/wash-fit](http://www.washinhcf.org/wash-fit)

WHO/UNICEF 2020. What is WASH FIT? 2 page overview.  
<https://www.washinhcf.org/resource/what-is-wash-fit-a-quick-overview/>

Weber et al. (2018) *Strengthening Healthcare Facilities Through Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Improvements: A Pilot Evaluation of "WASH FIT" in Togo*. Health Security  
<https://doi.org/10.2166/washdev.2019.090>

Weber et al. (2019) *A conceptual evaluation framework for the water and sanitation for health facility improvement tool (WASH FIT)* Journal of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for Development.  
<https://doi.org/10.2166/washdev.2019.090>

Maina et al. (2019) *Evaluating the foundations that help avert antimicrobial resistance: Performance of essential water sanitation and hygiene functions in hospitals and requirements for action in Kenya*. Plos One <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0222922>

Maina et al. (2019) *Extending the use of the World Health Organizations' water sanitation and hygiene assessment tool for surveys in hospitals – from WASH-FIT to WASH-FAST*. Plos One: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0226548>

### **WASH in HCF core indicators**

WHO/UNICEF, 2018. *Core questions and indicators for monitoring WASH in health care facilities in the Sustainable Development Goals*: <https://www.who.int/publications-detail-redirect/9789241514545>

Also available in [French](#), [Spanish](#), [Russian](#) and [Arabic](#).

### **Hand hygiene**

WHO, 2010. Hand Hygiene Self-Assessment Framework. [www.who.int/gpsc/country\\_work/hhsa\\_framework\\_October\\_2010.pdf?ua=1](http://www.who.int/gpsc/country_work/hhsa_framework_October_2010.pdf?ua=1)

WHO, 2009. Hand hygiene observation form [https://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/Observation\\_Form.doc](https://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/Observation_Form.doc)

WHO 2009. Guide to local production: WHO-recommended handrub formulation <https://www.who.int/publications-detail-redirect/WHO-IER-PSP-2010.5>

### **IPC**

WHO 2018. IPC assessment framework – facility level <https://www.who.int/publications-detail-redirect/WHO-HIS-SDS-2018.9>

WHO 2021. Infection prevention and control in primary care: a toolkit of resources <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240037304>

### **AMR**

WHO, FAO & OIE. Global Database for Antimicrobial Resistance Country Self-Assessment <https://amrcountryprogress.org/>

WHO, FAO & OIE, 2019. Monitoring and evaluation of the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance: framework and recommended indicators. World Health Organization, Geneva. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/325006>

### **ADVOCACY TOOLS and INFOGRAPHICS**

2020. Combatting AMR through WASH and IPC in healthcare. <https://www.washinhcf.org/resource/combating-amr-through-wash-and-ipc-in-healthcare/>

2020. IPC to reduce the burden of AMR. [https://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/joint-wash-ipc-amr-actions-2020.pdf](https://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/joint-wash-ipc-amr-actions-2020.pdf)

2019. [WASH in HCF] Eight practical steps: Advocacy action brief <https://www.washinhcf.org/resource/practical-steps-flyer-2019/>

2018. How to prevent sepsis [https://www.who.int/infection-prevention/campaigns/clean-hands/Sepsis\\_A3\\_print.pdf?ua=1](https://www.who.int/infection-prevention/campaigns/clean-hands/Sepsis_A3_print.pdf?ua=1)

2017. The role of infection prevention and control in prevention antibiotic resistance in health care. <https://www.washinhcf.org/documents/IPC-for-WAAW.pdf>

2016. Tackling antimicrobial resistance: Supporting national measures to address infection prevention and control and water, sanitation and hygiene in health care settings. [https://www.washinhcf.org/documents/AMR\\_IPC\\_WASH\\_FlyerNov2016-1.pdf](https://www.washinhcf.org/documents/AMR_IPC_WASH_FlyerNov2016-1.pdf)

2016. WASH and quality universal health coverage. <https://www.washinhcf.org/documents/WASH-and-qualityUHC.pdf>

### **WHO National situational analyses of WASH in health care facilities & quality**

2021. Understanding barriers to quality of care: An approach for conducting a situational analysis of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and quality in health care facilities. <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240022577>

2020. Achieving quality health services for all, through better water, sanitation and hygiene. Lessons from three African countries. <https://www.who.int/publications-detail-redirect/9789240009493>

2019. Situational analysis of WASH in health care facilities in Ethiopia. <https://www.washinhcf.org/resource/situational-analysis-washinhcf-ethiopia/>

2017. Achieving quality universal health coverage through better water, sanitation and hygiene services in health care facilities: A focus on Ethiopia <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/255264>

2017. Achieving quality universal health coverage through better water, sanitation and hygiene services in health care facilities. A focus on Cambodia and Ethiopia <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/259698?locale-attribute=es&>

### **SELECTED WEB LINKS**

WHO/UNICEF. Global knowledge portal on WASH in HCF: [www.washinhcf.org](http://www.washinhcf.org), in particular [www.washinhcf.org/resources](http://www.washinhcf.org/resources) for further reading on all aspects listed in this document.

WHO UNICEF. Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene <https://washdata.org/>

WHO. Water sanitation hygiene: <https://www.who.int/teams/environment-climate-change-and-health/water-sanitation-and-health>

UNICEF. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: <http://www.unicef.org/wash/>

WHO IPC <https://www.who.int/teams/integrated-health-services/infection-prevention-control>

WHO AMR [www.who.int/health-topics/antimicrobial-resistance](http://www.who.int/health-topics/antimicrobial-resistance)

WHO Patient safety <https://www.who.int/teams/integrated-health-services/patient-safety>

WHO Emergencies <https://www.who.int/emergencies/overview>

WHO Maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health <https://www.who.int/teams/maternal-newborn-child-adolescent-health-and-ageing>

WHO Immunization <https://www.who.int/teams/immunization-vaccines-and-biologicals/diseases>

UNDP/WHO/HCWH/GEF Green Healthcare Waste <https://greenhealthcarewaste.org/>

## **COVID-19 RELATED**

### **WHO technical guidance**

[Water, sanitation, hygiene, and waste management for SARS-CoV2, the virus that causes COVID-19, updated July 2020](#)

Other WHO technical guidance on a range of infection prevention control topics, including use of PPE, quarantine dead body management: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance-publications>

### **Webinar series**

Slides: [Water](#), [Sanitation](#), [Health care waste management](#), [Hand hygiene](#) and [Environmental cleaning](#).

[French](#) module

Webinar recordings: [YouTube channel](#) or search "WHO UNICEF WASH in health care facilities" on YouTube.

### **Guidance from other partners**

Health care without harm factsheet: [Health care waste management](#) (24 March 2020), also in [Spanish](#).

Health care without harm factsheet: [Disinfection tunnels](#)

**WHO COVID-19 strategy & response plan:** <https://www.who.int/publications-detail/strategic-preparedness-and-response-plan-for-the-new-coronavirus>

### **WHO Hand hygiene for all initiative**

<https://www.who.int/initiatives/hand-hygiene-for-all-global-initiative>

**COVID-19 partner's platform:** <https://covid-19-response.org/>

Country-level coordination, planning, and monitoring ([link](#))

**Risk communication and community engagement** ([link](#))

Surveillance, rapid response teams, and case investigation ([link](#))

Points of entry ([link](#))

National laboratories ([link](#))

**Infection prevention and control** ([link](#))

Case management ([link](#))

Operational support and logistics ([link](#))

Maintaining essential health services during an outbreak ([link](#))

### **Refugees, IPDs, Camps**

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance/humanitarian-operations-camps-and-other-fragile-settings>

Interim Guidance on Scaling-up COVID-19 Outbreak in Readiness and Response Operations in Camps and Camp-like Settings (jointly developed by IFRC, IOM, UNHCR and WHO) (17 March) <https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/other/interim-guidance-scaling-covid-19-outbreak-readiness-and-response-operations-camps-and-camp>

Interim Guidance on Public Health and Social Measures for COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Operations in Low Capacity and Humanitarian Settings (6 May):

<https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/health/interim-guidance-public-health-and-social-measures-covid-19-preparedness-and-response>