

5 Moments E-Learning Tool

Solution: "Washing a patient – difficult mode"

To protect patients/residents and staff against transmission of pathogens, hand disinfection and additional protective measures need to be integrated into the sequence of steps when washing a patient. In the following, you will find the correct order of treatment steps including all necessary hygiene measures:



Hand disinfection – WHO Moments 2 and 1

WHO Moment 2 = BEFORE aseptic tasks

Why? Both oral hygiene and contact with non-intact skin belong to aseptic tasks. To protect the patient/resident against the entry of potentially pathogenic organisms.

WHO Moment 1 = BEFORE touching a patient/resident

Why? To protect the patient/resident against the transmission of pathogens that may reside on the personnel's hands before patient treatment.

Why? Gloves need to be used when contact with mucous membranes, non-intact or contaminated/colonised skin, body fluids, secretions and excretions is expected (staff protection).



Hand disinfection – WHO Moments 3, 4 and 5

WHO Moment 3 = AFTER body fluid exposure risk

Why? To protect staff, subsequent patients/residents and the healthcare zone against pathogens, as the use of gloves does not provide safe protection against the transmission of pathogens. Microperforations not visible to the naked eye may occur and pathogens may reach the personnel's hands.

WHO Moment 4 = AFTER touching a patient/resident

Why? To protect staff, subsequent patients/residents and the healthcare zone against potentially pathogenic organisms that may have been transmitted during patient care.

WHO Moment 5 = AFTER touching patient/resident surroundings

Why? To protect staff, the healthcare zone and subsequent patients/residents against potentially pathogenic organisms.