

# HAND WASHING OBSERVATION TOOL

Unit/Clinic Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Observer: \_\_\_\_\_

**DEFINITION:** Caregivers are to cleanse hands with soap and water for 15 seconds **OR** use an alcohol-based hand cleanser between patient contact.

**TRIGGER EVENTS:**

- ✓ Caregiver / staff entering / leaving patient rooms, or
- ✓ Any caregiver / staff having contact with patients.
- ✓ See laminated Hand Hygiene recommendations

Time	Patient's Room Number	Profession (MD, RN, CP, RT, etc)	Required steps/elements	Yes	No
			Caregiver washes hands with soap & water for 15 seconds <b>OR</b> uses an alcohol-based hand cleanser between patient contact.		

☐ Washed for less than 15 seconds.

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Time	Patient's Room Number	Profession (MD, RN, CP, RT, etc)	Required steps/elements	Yes	No
			Caregiver washes hands with soap & water for 15 seconds <b>OR</b> uses an alcohol-based hand cleanser between patient contact.		

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**Supplemental Figure 1** Observational tool used by undergraduate student volunteers to assess handwashing by hospital personnel from January 2006 to May 2008 at the UCLA Medical Center.