

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) for Ebola or Marburg:

Facilitating Hand Hygiene

Healthcare Settings with Limited to Intermediate Resources

Learning Objectives

After this presentation, participants will be able to

- Explain why facilitating hand hygiene in healthcare facilities is important in the context of Ebola or Marburg.
- Give at least three considerations for facilitating proper hand hygiene with soap and water.

Definition: Hand Hygiene



Hand hygiene is the general term used for cleaning hands, whether using soap and water, alcohol-based hand rub, or surgical hand scrub

Handwash = soap + water

Handrub = alcohol-based hand rub

Definition: Hand Hygiene Station

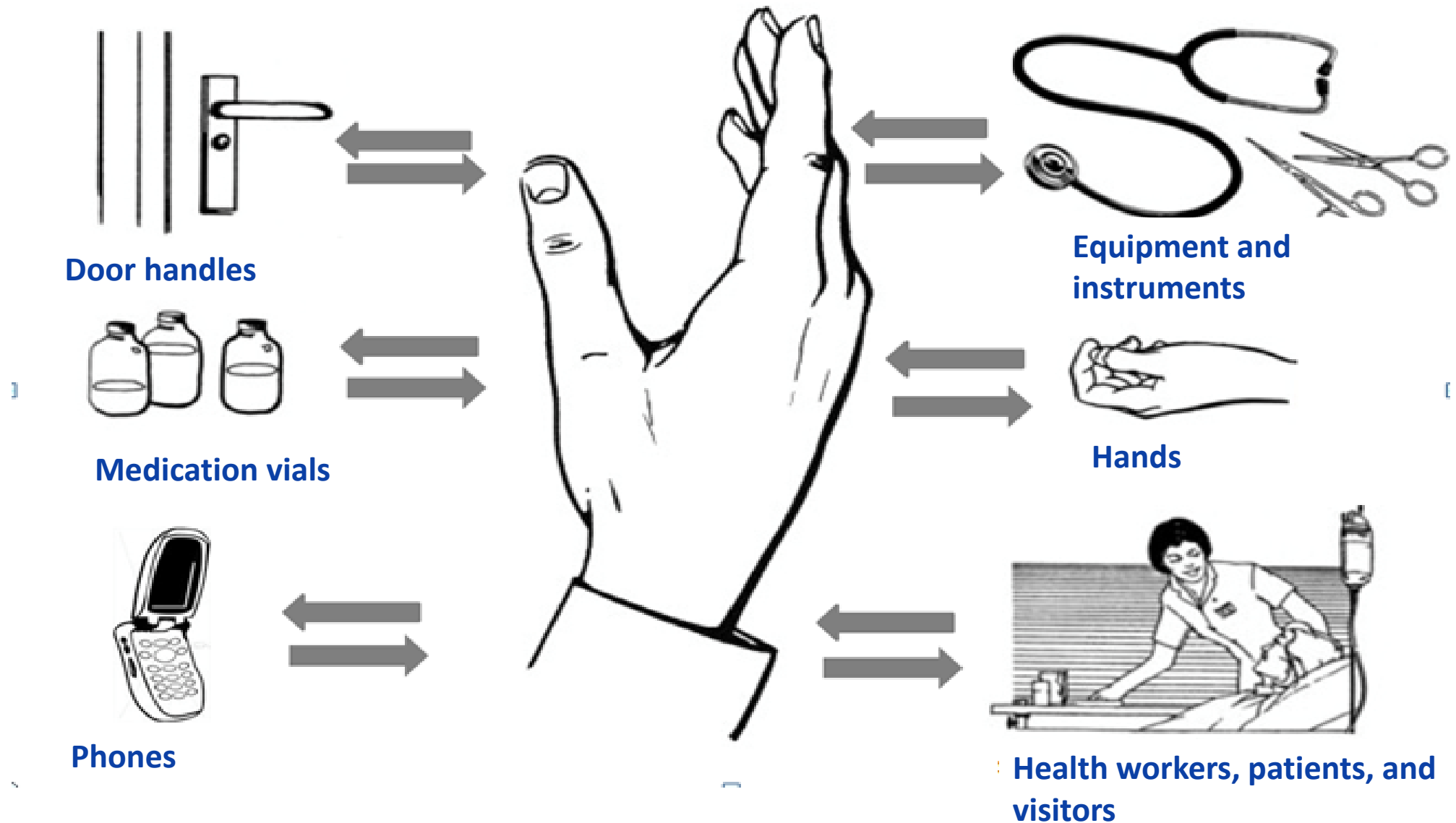


Hand hygiene stations are areas designed for people to access products such as alcohol-based rub or soap and water to clean their hands.

Hand Hygiene at Your Facility

- Alcohol-based hand rub, soap and water, and/or chlorine?
- Approximately how many hand hygiene stations available?
- Location of hand hygiene stations?

Why Hand Hygiene?



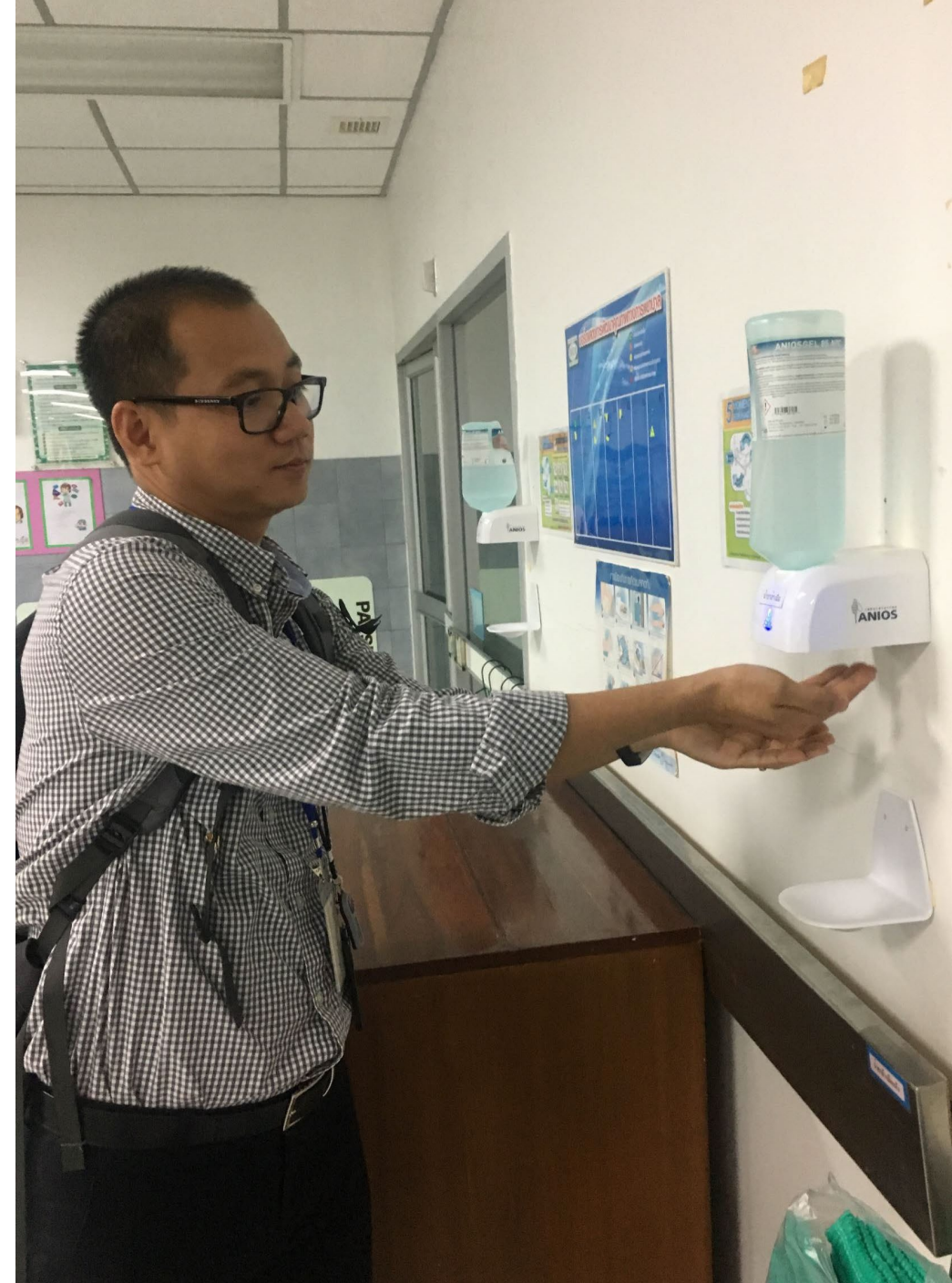
Hand Hygiene Options

- Alcohol-based hand rub
- Soap and water
- Chlorine (not recommended)



Use of Alcohol-Based Hand Rub

- World Health Organization's preferred method for hand hygiene
- Keeping dispensers filled correctly should be a formal task supported by the facility



Use of Soap and Water for Hand Hygiene



If using a bucket with soapy water, another bucket of non-soapy water is needed to rinse hands



If using bars of soap, store bars so water can't pool underneath them

Use of Chlorine for Hand Hygiene

- **NOT** recommended routinely¹
- **Interim option** for when no other hand hygiene products are available
 - 500 ppm sodium hypochlorite (0.05%)
- Considerations:
 - Starting product/concentration
 - Dilution (correct math)
 - Daily preparation
 - Storage (shield from light)



<http://cdcmuseum.org/exhibits/show/ebola/public-health/ipc/handwashing>

Soap/Water and Chlorine Considerations

- Turning tap off without contaminating hands
- Single-use towels preferred for drying; shared towels can become contaminated
- Keeping buckets filled correctly should be a formal task supported by the facility



Location of Hand Hygiene Stations

- Entrances
- Screening areas
- Areas to put on PPE
- Areas to remove PPE
- Isolation areas
- Other patient care areas



Stations should be placed at entrances and patient care areas to encourage frequent use

Reflection

Based on what we discussed today...

- What are some things that your facility does well to facilitate hand hygiene?
- What are two things your facility could do differently to better facilitate hand hygiene?

Key Takeaways

- Keeping hands clean is important to help keep you, your co-workers & patients, and your community safe during an Ebola or Marburg outbreak.
- **Alcohol-based hand rub is preferred** for hand hygiene. Chlorine is not recommended.
- Hand hygiene stations should be available in many areas to encourage frequent use.

Thank you!

For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

