Imagine delivering a baby with no water,
…preventing infections from spreading
Or trying to provide quality care when basic services are lacking...
Globally, access to WASH in health care facilities is limited

- 38% globally do not have access to an improved water source at or near the facility.
- When reliability and safety is considered, water coverage drops by half.
- 35% lack soap for handwashing and 19% are without sanitation.
- Data from 2015 WHO/UNICEF Global Assessment of WASH in HCF.
Safe health care waste management is also lacking.
By 2030, to ensure that every health care facility, in every setting, has safely managed, reliable water, sanitation and hygiene facilities and practices to meet staff and patient needs in order to provide quality, safe people-centered care with particular attention to the needs of women, girls and children.
Catalyzing action through the Sustainable Development Goals
WASH = health

Maternal child health
Antimicrobial resistance
Infection prevention and control
Quality universal health coverage
Maternal and child health

**Situation**

Hospital-born babies in low-income settings are at a higher risk of being affected by neonatal sepsis, with infection rates 3 to 20 times higher than in high-income settings.

**Action**

WASH is a core component of WHO Standards for improving quality of maternal and newborn care (2016). Development and implementation of indicators. WASH element strengthened in training materials, advocacy and country-focused efforts.
Antimicrobial resistance

The consequences of poor water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and compromised infection prevention and control (IPC)

Lack of WASH, including inadequate toilets, in health care facilities

1. Increased risk of healthcare-associated infections (HAI)
2. Increased risk of spread of HAI
3. Increased burden of expensive, hard-to-treat and life-threatening resistant infections
4. Decrease in patient confidence in health care

Overreliance on preventive use of antibiotics
High health care costs and poor health outcomes
Increased use of antibiotics to treat preventable infections

Action
Prevention through WASH is a core component of WHO Global Action Plan on AMR
National action plans include WASH and prevention elements
Infection Prevention and Control

Situation
7% of patients in developed and 10% in developing acquire a health care associated infection
In Africa, up to 20% of women get a wound infection after a caesarean section

Action
WASH is a core component in new IPC Guidelines (2016)
139 Member States have pledged to reduce health care associated infection
Join the WHO Global Learning Laboratory for qUHC – WASH-IPC pod

To create a safe space to **share** knowledge, experiences & ideas; **challenge** those ideas & approaches; and **spark** innovation for quality UHC.

**Share**
Members share experiences, knowledge and ideas from the country level - lessons learned are disseminated across the globe.

**Challenge**
Members challenge experiences, knowledge and ideas – driving new and different ideas and understanding.

**Spark**
Members generate innovative ideas to support a collaborative task, activity or programme to be further developed in-country.

Click on **Communities**
Scroll down to click on **Global Learning Laboratory for Quality Universal Health Coverage**

www.integratedcare4people.org
What we know works for improving WASH in HCF

Global
• High level advocacy and support
• Embedding within health efforts

National
• Strong political commitment, implementation of national policies and budget lines
• Monitoring: use of harmonized indicators in surveys and HMIS
What we know works for improving WASH in HCF

Facility level

• Accountability mechanisms and incentives
• Engagement and empowerment of leaders, communities and users
• Small incremental improvements (WASH FIT)
Improving quality of care

**Water and Sanitation for Health Improvement Tool**

A risk-based management tool for improving WASH services in HCF

To ensure health care facilities

- are clean and safe
- have staff and mechanisms to maintain and improve WASH
- can provide quality, people-centred care

Adapted from Water Safety Plan and Quality Improvement approaches
WHO WASH standards provide a basis for WASH FIT

- Water quantity
- Water quality
- Handwashing facilities
- Excreta and wastewater disposal
- Health care waste disposal
- Cleaning
- Control of vector borne diseases
- Information and hygiene promotion

Standards available in English, French, Spanish, Russian
1. Assemble and train the WASH FIT team; and continuous professional development

2. Conduct assessment of WASH throughout the facility

3. Identify and prioritize areas for improvement

4. Develop and implement an incremental improvement plan

5. Continuously evaluate and improve the plan

5-step approach requiring commitment and leadership
Early adopters

- Implemented in *over 15 countries* with different core focus (overall quality of care, maternal/newborn services, cholera hotspot, outbreaks, health care waste)

- Demand exceeds supply; several self-initiated efforts

- Monitoring and follow-up by government, in certain places with support by NGOs, WHO and partners

- Rigorous M&E being developed
Examples of WASH FIT improvements in Liberia

- Range of immediate to longer-term solutions
- Includes cleanliness and hygiene of grounds
- Reminders of hygiene behaviour
- Safe waste destruction-improved incinerators
Lessons from implementation

• Conduct hands-on training in facilities
• Leadership needed from senior facility staff
• Link training to policy and financing strengthening mechanisms
• Peer-to-peer exchanges, competitions and auditing supports ongoing improvements
• Dedicated WASH budget critical
Looking ahead – global opportunities and strategic considerations

• Elevate urgency and profile
• Demonstrate proof of concept and scale-up
• Implement tools and empower health staff
• Develop innovating financing
• Monitor and hold accountable
• Strengthen and share evidence
• Foster partnerships
Other areas of WHO WASH support

- Developing and implementing national drinking-water guidelines and surveillance systems
- Advice on performance of household water treatment technologies and support for national testing
- Training and implementation of water safety plans and sanitation safety planning in communities
- Monitoring of inputs into WASH (GLAAS) and access in households HCF and schools (JMP)
Thank you!

For more information: visit www.washinhcf.org or email washinhcf@who.int


http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/WASH_and_Ebola.pdf

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/144730/1/WHO_EVD_WSH_14.2_eng.pdf


http://www.washinhcf.org/resources/tools/