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## Rochester General Hospital Edition

June 2012

### HAND WASHING IN HEALTHCARE SAVES LIVES



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have stated that one of the most important measures for preventing the spread of pathogens is effective hand washing. Hand-washing compliance among healthcare professionals has been shown to be the single most important practice to combat hospital acquired infections. However, compliance rates with hand washing hygiene remain low.

Hand-washing noncompliance is associated with significant hospital costs and patient morbidity and mortality.

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