Abstract

Introduction: The CDC estimates that one in 25 hospital patients have at least one healthcare-associated infection each year. These infections result in prolonged hospital stay, disability, and economic burden. A common mode of pathogen transmission is via contaminated hands. Hand hygiene is the single best method to prevent infections. While visitors are potential vectors for pathogen transmission to patients, their hand hygiene rate is alarmingly low. Thus, it is critical to improve visitor hand hygiene practice as an addition to the current multimodal effort to reduce healthcare-associated infections.

Purpose: The purpose of this quality improvement project was to enhance healthcare workers’ knowledge on the importance of visitor hand hygiene and the evidence-based interventions to improve visitor hand hygiene.

Method: This project utilized a one-group posttest only design. Distributed through Qualtrics, participants viewed the online educational video followed by demographic questions and a Likert scale questionnaire. The educational video included a narrated PowerPoint presentation and a simulation demonstrating the implementation of evidence-based interventions to increase visitor hand hygiene rate.

Results: A total of five healthcare workers participated in this project. All participants reported either strongly agreed or agreed that they were satisfied with how the educational simulation was conducted and felt confident in learning the presented content.

Conclusion: Education is often used to disseminate knowledge, increase awareness, and change behavior. As virtual education is ubiquitously utilized, this study demonstrated that it is a feasible method to enhance knowledge and encourage visitors’ involvement in infection control to reduce healthcare-associated infections.