



Capsule

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What's new, what's hot, what's timely? If you don't have time to search the Internet for the latest developments that might impact your work environment, you just might find some of this information in this "Capsule" column. Please e-mail any comments or suggestions to ekrisiunas@aol.com or to the Editor, Ira F. Salkin, at irasalkin@aol.com.

Handwashing Update!

Essential reading for all those concerned with infection control!

- *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report—Recommendations and Reports* October 25, 2002 / 51(RR16); 1-44.
- Recommendations of the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee and the HICPAC/SHEA/APIC/IDSA Hand Hygiene Task Force.

The hand hygiene guidelines were developed by the CDC's Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC), in collaboration with the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA), the Association of Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC), the Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA).

In addition to recommendations, there are also very thorough review of the subject, 423 references and bags of useful tables on activity of disinfectants,

risk factors for non-compliance, strategies for improving compliance, and the effects of improving compliance.

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5116a1.htm>

or

<http://www.cdc.gov/handhygiene/>

Laboratory Waste Disposal Guide

Located at the OHASIS web site (<http://www.cdc.gov/od/ohs/biosfty/biosfty.htm>), this 10-page PDF file provides a good overview of waste management practices for laboratories. It appears to be designed for the labs at the CDC and may serve as a good presentation for facilities looking to perform such training.

<http://www.cdc.gov/od/ohs/pdffiles/autoclave1.pdf>

Biosafety Resources from the European Perspective

Located at the Belgian Biosafety web site (<http://biosafety.ihe.be/>), the following link can be used to find additional biosafety resources from a European perspective.

<http://biosafety.ihe.be/Guidelines/ResourcesMenu.html>