

Barriers to hand hygiene practices among healthcare workers in Sub-Saharan African countries: a narrative review

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Citation

Yetunde Ataiyero, Judith Dyson, Moira Graham. Barriers to hand hygiene practices among healthcare workers in Sub-Saharan African countries: a narrative review. PROSPERO 2018 CRD42018087062 Available from:

http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/PROSPERO/display_record.php?ID=CRD42018087062

Review question

What are the barriers to hand hygiene practices among healthcare workers in Sub-Sahara African countries?

Searches

Literature search was conducted using the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines (Moher et al., 2010). Subject-specific databases namely CINAHL Complete, MEDLINE and PsycINFO were explored. In order to access other relevant studies, grey literatures were searched by exploring relevant websites (such as World Health Organization) and citation searching was conducted so pertinent articles were not left out.

Different key words were combined during the literature search and the following terms were used to search through all the databases. To boost the returned searches, names of countries within SSA were also combined. Where applicable, Boolean operators of AND and OR were used to combine the key terms. Likewise, truncation symbol (*) was employed to ensure that the different forms of the words were searched simultaneously so relevant articles were not missed out. Only peer-reviewed, empirical studies, published between 2005 and 2017 and that explored hand hygiene barriers and/or compliance of SSA healthcare workers were included. Similarly, only studies published in English language being the authors' first language.

Types of study to be included

All empirical, peer-reviewed studies published in English language that are conducted among healthcare workers in Sub-Sahara African countries will be included.

Condition or domain being studied

Hand hygiene practices of healthcare workers

Participants/population

Inclusion - Hospital-based healthcare workers from Sub-Sahara African countries

Exclusion – Community-based healthcare workers

Intervention(s), exposure(s)

Hand hygiene practices of healthcare workers is the exposure of interest

Comparator(s)/control

Hand hygiene practices of healthcare workers in developed countries

Context

Focus will be on hospital-based healthcare workers from Sub-Sahara African countries

Main outcome(s)

Identifying the barriers to hand hygiene compliance among healthcare workers in Sub-Sahara African countries

Additional outcome(s)

Not applicable

PROSPERO

International prospective register of systematic reviews

Data extraction (selection and coding)

Independent screening of titles and abstracts against the inclusion and exclusion criteria was conducted by two reviewers. Full texts were assessed for eligibility and in instances of discrepancies, these were reviewed by the third reviewer by discussing such issues.

The study selection process will be reported using the PRISMA flow chart. The following data will be extracted and reported in a table: author and year, population and sample, research aim and methods, outcome measures, summary of research findings and quality appraisal. Any missing data will be requested from the study authors.

Risk of bias (quality) assessment

Quality appraisal of studies to be included will be conducted using standardised tools such as the Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP) checklist and only exceptions to methodological quality will be discussed.

Strategy for data synthesis

Thematic analysis from the findings of included studies will be undertaken.

Analysis of subgroups or subsets

None

Contact details for further information

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Anticipated or actual start date

15 November 2017

Anticipated completion date

28 February 2018

Funding sources/sponsors

None

Conflicts of interest

Language

English

Country

England

Stage of review

Review_Completed_not_published

Subject index terms status

Subject indexing assigned by CRD

Subject index terms

PROSPERO
International prospective register of systematic reviews

Africa South of the Sahara; Africa, Northern; Hand Disinfection; Hand Hygiene; Health Personnel; Humans

Date of registration in PROSPERO

26 January 2018

Date of publication of this version

15 August 2018

Details of any existing review of the same topic by the same authors

Stage of review at time of this submission

Stage	Started	Completed
Preliminary searches	Yes	Yes
Piloting of the study selection process	Yes	Yes
Formal screening of search results against eligibility criteria	Yes	Yes
Data extraction	Yes	Yes
Risk of bias (quality) assessment	Yes	Yes
Data analysis	Yes	Yes

Versions

26 January 2018

15 August 2018

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