GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY
October 15
The power is in your hands

Handwashing with soap is the most effective and inexpensive way to prevent diarrhoea and acute respiratory infections. People commonly rinse their hands with water in the mistaken belief that water alone will clean their hands however water alone is significantly less effective for removing bacteria than washing hands with soap.

Research has shown that the observed rates of handwashing with soap at critical times (after using the toilet, cleaning a child’s bottom, or before handling food) around the world in both developed and developing countries ranges from 0-34%. Low rates of handwashing are rarely caused by a lack of soap. Soap is present in the vast majority of households worldwide but it is commonly only used for bathing and laundry, not for handwashing. Lack of water is usually not a problem either, as hands can be effectively washed with little or recycled water. The major reason for low rates of handwashing is that this is simply not a habit but it is a habit we must all adopt (http://globalhandwashing.org).

Nurses and midwives as the health professionals with the most ongoing contract with individuals, families and communities have a unique opportunity to influence behaviour change and save children’s lives. Role modelling hand hygiene is an essential first step. Remember: the power is in your hands.

How to Handwash?
WASH HANDS WHEN VISIBLY SOILED! OTHERWISE, USE HANDRUB

1. Wet hands with water.
2. Apply enough soap to cover all hands surfaces.
3. Rub hands palm to palm.
4. Right palm over left dorsum with interlaced fingers and vice versa.
5. Palm to palm with fingers interlaced.
6. Rub backs of fingers by opposing palms with fingers interlaced.
7. Rotational rubbing of left thumb if snapped in right palm and vice versa.
8. Rotational rubbing, backhand and forward with all fingers of right hand in left palm and vice versa.
9. Dry hands thoroughly with a single-use towel.
10. Use towel to turn off tap.
11. Your hands are now safe.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
2nd Commonwealth Nurses Conference
8-9 March 2014

Registration is now open for the 2nd Commonwealth Nurses Conference: Nurses and midwives - agents of change to be held at the Royal College of Physicians, Regent’s Park London 8-9 March 2014. For more information and to register go to the CNF website: http://www.commonwealthnurses.org/conference2014.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
2nd Commonwealth Nurses Conference
8-9 March 2014

Registration is now open for the 2nd Commonwealth Nurses Conference: Nurses and midwives - agents of change to be held at the Royal College of Physicians, Regent’s Park London 8-9 March 2014. For more information and to register go to the CNF website: http://www.commonwealthnurses.org/conference2014.
The Commonwealth People’s Forum 2013 is organised by the Commonwealth Foundation, and hosted by a consortium of Sri Lankan civil society organisations with support from the Government of Sri Lanka. Held every two years in the run up to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), the CPF brings civil society representatives together to discuss key issues facing the Commonwealth and is the single biggest opportunity for civil society to engage with Commonwealth leaders on global development issues.

For more information and to register, go to: [http://www.cpf2013.org](http://www.cpf2013.org).

**ISSUE 48 now available**

*The Commonwealth Nurse* is now available free online from its own website: [http://www.thecommonwealthnurse.com](http://www.thecommonwealthnurse.com). The complete journal or individual articles can be downloaded. Back issues are also available.

Articles for ISSUE 49: Maternal and child health should be received no later than 30 November.

Author guidelines and submission instructions are available on the journal website.

---

**The CNF e-News is sponsored by the**

[RCN Publishing Company](http://www.rcnpublishing.co.uk/)

Publishers of

Nursing Standard; Nursing Management; Cancer Nursing Practice; Nursing Older People; Emergency Nurse; Nurse Researcher; Evidence Based Nursing; Learning Disability Practice; Nursing Children and Young People; Mental Health Practice

Available in print or digital editions and online and includes access to an archive of over 7,000 searchable clinical articles

To subscribe go to: [http://www.rcnpublishing.co.uk/](http://www.rcnpublishing.co.uk/)

**TEN COUNTRIES RECEIVE ARC GRANTS**

Ten countries were awarded grants of up to US$ 10,000 in Year 3 of the African Regulatory Collaborative initiative. The ten countries were: Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Africa, South Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda and Zambia. The proposals from Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Zambia are related to developing, implementing or evaluating national CPD programs. The proposals from Rwanda, Seychelles, South Sudan and Uganda are related to developing or reviewing scopes of practice particularly to incorporate advanced practice roles in relation to HIV services. The Swaziland proposal is to develop a national licensing examination.