

The Scottish national hand hygiene proxy measure uses the volume of alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) purchased by NHS Scotland boards as an indicator of the number of hand hygiene moments being performed per patient-bed-day” Dalziel et al (2017).

Summary:

The Scottish national hand hygiene proxy measure uses the volume of alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) purchased by NHS Scotland boards as an indicator of the number of hand hygiene moments being performed per patient-bed-day. The proxy measure calculation is based on the assumption that 3 mL of ABHR is used per hand hygiene moment. This study aimed to validate the volume of ABHR being used per hand hygiene moment. It found that the median volume of ABHR being used in practice is approximately 1 mL per hand hygiene moment, and that using this validated volume in the calculation substantially increases the proxy measure of hand hygiene compliance.

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Reference:

Dalziel, C., McIntyre, J., Chand, A.G., McWilliam, S. and Ritchie, L. (2017) Validation of a national hand hygiene proxy measure in NHS Scotland. *The Journal of Hospital Infection*. October 7th. .

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jhin.2017.10.001>

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