

Medical Solutions Division

Subject:

3M™ Avagard™ Antiseptic CHG Hand Rub placement during a pandemic.

From:

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Key message:

3M Avagard Antiseptic CHG Hand Rub is indicated for **Healthcare Professionals Only** (Chlorhexidine gluconate 0.5%w/v in Ethanol 70%v/v).

Indication for use: Antiseptic hand rub for use as a topical skin antiseptic

Avagard Antiseptic CHG Hand Rub, is registered for Health Care Professional Use Only in a hospital or health care setting. It must be used under the supervision of HCP's.

The National Hand Hygiene Initiative provides placement recommendation for Alcohol Based Hand Rubs (ABHR). Please see below some support material from the NHHI manual.¹

The following ABHR placement locations are suggested:

- On the end of every patient bed
- Affixed to mobile work trolleys (e.g. intravenous, drug and dressing trolleys)
- High staff traffic areas (e.g. nurse's station, pan room, medication room and patient room entrance)
- Other multi-use patient-care areas, such as examination rooms and outpatient consultation rooms
- Entrances to each ward, outpatient clinic or department
- A clear decision needs to be made about whose responsibility it will be to replace empty ABHR bottles.
- Never pour ABHR from one bottle into another as this can cause contamination.

Placement recommendations:

- The maximum size of an individual ABHR dispenser should not exceed 500mls
- No more than 80 individual ABHR dispensers (each with a maximum capacity of 500ml) should be installed within a single smoke compartment
- Corridors should have at least 1.8m wide with at least 150cm between each ABHR
- Dispensers should not project more than 15cm into corridor egress
- Wall mounted brackets should be located at a height of between 92cms and 122 cm above the floor (avoid placing at eye level)
- Dispensers should not be located over carpeted areas, unless the area is protected by active sprinklers
- Dispensers should not be located over, or directly adjacent to ignition sources (e.g. electrical switches, power points, call buttons, or monitoring equipment)
- ABHR dispensers should be separated from heat sources and electric motors
- Dispensers should be installed according to manufacturer's recommendations and to minimise leaks or spills

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- Regular maintenance of dispensers and brackets should occur in accordance with manufacturer's guidelines
- Product usage signs should be clearly visible and laminated
- Regular monitoring of each area is recommended for misuse, or removal of product
- Each facility should take adequate care regarding the placement of each dispenser so as to protect vulnerable populations, for example in psychiatric units, drug and alcohol units, paediatric units and units caring for cognitively impaired patients

Clinical area placement considerations:

Special consideration is necessary when locating ABHR in clinical areas where ingestion or accidental splashing of ABHR is a particular risk (accidental ingestion of ABHR has been reported, but is uncommon).

1. <https://www.hha.org.au/hand-hygiene/alcohol-based-handrubs/product-placement>

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