

# Temiskaming Hospital

November 26, 2008

## **Hand Hygiene Programs in Full Swing at Temiskaming Hospital**

Since the cold weather and the good ol' flu season will soon be upon us, the Temiskaming Hospital will be launching two hand hygiene programs, both geared towards improving patient and health care provider safety. The ultimate goal is to prevent hospital-acquired infections and the spread of antibiotic-resistant organisms, which will inevitably save lives and reduce health care costs.

“Just Clean Your Hands” is a program designed by the Ministry of Health and Long term care, which focuses on education for health care providers, while the Ontario Hospital Association has initiated a campaign to educate the public called “Clean Hands Protect Lives”. The common denominator in both programs focuses on the promotion of the simplest form of infection prevention, namely, effective hand washing.

Since patients and their families are now more active in their plan of care, involving them in infection prevention is the key. Every patient will have the knowledge and the right to expect care by a staff member who is practicing safe and effective hand washing.

Ultimately, The Temiskaming Hospital will reflect the effectiveness of these programs by continuing to report low hospital-acquired infections. Both health care workers and patients will have an integral part to play in their own health promotion and infection prevention.



Temiskaming Hospital  
(705) 647-8121  
[www.temihosp.on.ca](http://www.temihosp.on.ca)

### **Visiting Hours:**

- 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for medical patients, surgical patients and Long-Term Care patients;
- 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for obstetrics patients;
- Visitors to the Special Care Unit (SCU) are restricted to immediate family and/or significant other(s).