

### **Hand Hygiene Speaking Notes**

- As you know, improving physician hand hygiene compliance rates is a key part of the fight against hospital-acquired infections – at the national level, the provincial level, and right here at LHSC where MAC approved a strategy March 6, 2013.
- What you may not know is that this unit has below-average compliance rates when compared to the rest of LHSC.
- The Physician Hand Hygiene Strategy group recently conducted an environmental audit of the unit to see whether the number and location of hand sanitizer dispensers here were presenting a barrier to compliance.
- Several deficiencies were identified and new sanitizer dispensers have been placed in locations selected by a physician.
- Handwashing matters. And there are lots of reasons to wash your hands (see PowerPoint)
- All of you know that improved adherence to hand hygiene has been shown to reduce transmission of antimicrobial resistant organisms, and reduce overall infection rates – just as you know that health care associated infections (HAIs) can have a devastating impact on our patients, our hospital, ourselves and on the entire health care system.
- Our patients know how important hand hygiene is. They want to see their physician clean their hands.
- Let's make sure our numbers are at least in line with our peers and start observing moments #1 and #4 every time we enter and leave a patient's environment.