

# Clean Your Hands!



### How to wash your hands with soap and water:

- Use soap and warm, running water.
- Keep fingers pointing down.
- Rub hands vigorously for 20 seconds. Wash all surfaces:
  - Backs of hands
  - Wrists
  - Between fingers
  - Tips of fingers
  - Thumbs
  - Under fingernails
- Dry vigorously with paper or clean cloth towel.
- Turn off faucet with towel and open door with towel.

### How it works:

- The soap suspends the dirt and soils.
- The friction motion helps pull dirt and greasy or oily soils free from the skin.
- Warm running water washes away suspended dirt and soils that trap germs.
- Final friction of wiping hands removes more germs.

### How to clean your hands with an alcohol-based handrub:

- Apply a dime sized amount of handrub gel to the palm of one hand or use an alcohol-based handrub wipe.
- Rub hands together covering all surfaces of hands and fingers until handrub is absorbed.

### How they work:

- Act quickly to kill microorganisms
- Reduce bacterial counts on hands

Wash your hands with soap and water when your hands are visibly soiled. If soap and water is not available, use alcohol-based handrub (wipes or gel).

**Sacred Heart University  
Swine Flu Information & Safety  
Procedures For Hand Washing!**



[www.sacredheart.edu/swineflu.cfm](http://www.sacredheart.edu/swineflu.cfm)  
SHU Emergency Planning Team

