



Practice Briefs

Are sinks used for equipment decontamination or urine specimen disposal acceptable to wash hands in as well?

NO

Hand washing should not be performed in sinks which are contaminated (e.g., sinks used for instrument decontamination and dumping of urine specimens). Do not wash hands in sinks in dirty utility rooms and other areas used for decontaminating equipment or disposal of potentially contaminated items. In areas with limited workspace, signage should be posted and training should be done with staff to define clean and dirty sinks.

ICAP recommends the Clinic Survey Tool at this link. The tool starts on page 4. See #2d for the specific question about clean sinks.

<https://apic.org/Member-Services/Infection-Connection/Issue?id=7c208da5-4de4-44ff-99b7-d41b4828f5cb> Retrieved 3.1.18

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