

Alcohol-Based Hand Rub (ABHR) Dispenser Placement Algorithm

September 2018

The Alberta Standata Fire Code Variance⁵ (AFC) dictates the maximum allowed alcohol-based hand rub in healthcare facilities. This document will provide guidance to unit/area managers on placement decisions related to the AFC, ABHR placement best practice, ingestion risk and Workplace Health and Safety. Each area must consider the unit layout, workflow and transmission risk when determining best placement of ABHR.

The algorithm is intended to assist units and facilities to assess the placement of ABHR dispensers in each fire compartment. Each area should be assessed using the algorithm to determine ideal locations for ABHR. Existing ABHR dispensers may need to be relocated or removed based on the new assessment. Up-to-date floor plans may be valuable for documenting this assessment.

This algorithm should be followed in its entirety and decisions for ABHR placement should be completed by a multidisciplinary team including (at minimum) unit/site management and staff, Facilities Maintenance and Engineering representation and an Infection Prevention and Control Professional.

The following documents are referenced throughout the algorithm and should be consulted for more detailed information.

- 1) Alberta Health Services. (February 2, 2016). *Alcohol-based hand rub: Dispenser Placement Guidelines*. Retrieved from <http://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/qhi/tms-qhi-ps-abhr-placement-guidelines.pdf>
- 2) Alberta Health Services. (December 16, 2015). *Alcohol-Based Hand Rub: Product Ingestion Risk screening*. Retrieved from <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/healthinfo/ipc/if-hp-ipc-abhr-ingestion-risk-screening.pdf>
- 3) Alberta Health Services. (February 2016). General Ergonomics Best Practices: Mounting Heights for Hand Hygiene Products and Sharps. Retrieved from AHS Insite Home>Teams>Human Resources>Working Safely (WHS)>Resource Index (A - Z)>Ergonomics>Ergonomics Resource Library>Mounting Heights for Hand Hygiene Products and Sharps
- 4) Alberta Health Services. (February 2, 2016). *Safer Practice Notice: Alcohol-Based Hand Rub Safety Guidelines*. Retrieved from <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/info/hp/ps/if-hp-ps-spn-alcohol-based-hand-rub-2016-01-07.pdf>
- 5) Alberta Municipal Affairs – Safety Services. (June 2018). *Standata Fire Code Variance. Fire Safety and Hand Hygiene in Healthcare Facilities*. Retrieved from <http://www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/documents/14-FCV-016-SafetyandHandHygieneinHealthcareFacilities.pdf>

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