

2.0 Handwashing Facilities

2.1 General

The Guidelines refer to several categories of hand basins including Type A, B, C and troughs along with various configurations for types and placement of tapware. These are addressed in the section and tables that follow.

2.2 Handbasin Types

Type A handbasin refers to a clinical scrub basin. The handbasin type is a large Clinical Scrub type. The taps are wall mounted, hands-free operation (elbow, foot or electronic). This basin is used in areas requiring clinical hand-washing for sterile procedures, for example ICU Rooms, Treatment Rooms and Cardiac Catheterisation areas.

Type B basin refers to a general staff handbasin. The basin type is a medium wall mounted basin. The taps are either wall mounted or basin mounted with hands-free operation (elbow or wrist). This basin is used in areas requiring general staff hand-washing, for example ward corridors.

Type C basin refers to a small staff handbasin. The basin type is a small wall mounted basin. The taps are either wall mounted or basin mounted with hands-free operation (elbow or wrist). This basin is used in areas requiring general staff hand-washing, for example Staff Amenities and Toilet Areas.

Scrub sink refers to a long sink that can accommodate one or more staff scrubbing for a sterile procedure at the one time. Refer to Ergonomics for the heights, width of space per person and type of taps.

2.3 Handwash Basins - Placement

Handwash Bays should be provided in the following ratios:

- Intensive/ Critical Care Units - one per enclosed room, one per two open Bays
- Emergency Unit - one per four open bays
- Ambulatory Care Areas - one per four open bays
- Other patient treatment areas - generally staff should not be more than 10 -12 metres from a Handwash Bay.

2.4 Handwash Basin Types – Schedule

Schedule of basin and tap types:

The following indicates recommended basin and tap combinations for particular rooms. For rooms not listed refer to a similar area.

ROOM / SPACE	Basin Type	Wall Tap	Basin Tap	Wrist Action	Elbow Action	Infra-red	Remarks
BAY - HANDWASHING	B	Yes	Optional		Yes		In Corridors
BATHROOM	B		Yes	Yes			
BIRTHING ROOM	A	Yes			Yes	Optional	
CLEAN UTILITY	B	Yes	Optional		Yes		
CLEAN-UP ROOMS	B		Yes	Yes			
CONSULT ROOM	B	Yes	Optional	Yes	Yes		Also, includes Exam Rooms
DIRTY UTILITY	B		Yes	Yes			



ROOM / SPACE	Basin Type	Wall Tap	Basin Tap	Wrist Action	Elbow Action	Infra-red	Remarks
ENSUITES	b		Yes				
HIGH DEPENDENCY UNIT	A	Yes			Yes		
INPATIENT BEDS	B	Yes			Yes		
INTENSIVE CARE UNIT	A	Yes			Yes		
ISOLATION ROOM - AIRLOCK / ANTEROOM	B	Yes			Yes		
ISOLATION ROOM/ S PANTRY		Yes	Yes		Yes		Includes Kitchenettes, Beverage Pantry
POST MORTEM		Yes	Optional		Yes		
RECOVERY		Yes			Yes		
SCRUB-UP / GOWNING		Yes				Yes	Operating Unit, Day Procedure Unit, Procedure Rooms including Imaging
TOILET - PATIENT			Yes				
TOILET - PUBLIC			Yes				
TOILET - STAFF			Yes				
TREATMENT ROOM		Yes			Yes		

2.5 Work & Treatment Areas

Sinks should not be provided in Clean Utility areas to avoid the risk of contamination of sterile stock stored in this area. The clinical handbasin should be located external to the room. Basin Type B is recommended for this area.



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