Global Hygiene Council Overview & Study Backgrounder

The Global Hygiene Council (GHC) is a group of the world’s top experts in hygiene and related fields, including microbiology, virology, infectious disease, immunology and public health.

The GHC was formed in 2006 to set the hygiene agenda at a global level and to trigger behavioral changes that have a proven effect on personal and public health. The group conducts annual global surveys on habits, beliefs and actions relating to health and hygiene. Its work is funded by educational grants from RB, the parent company of LYSOL®, and other brands.

The newest study, “Impact of Hygiene on the Family,” conducted in 2015, delved into personal and household hygiene behaviors and attitudes. The study identified areas of improvement that could reduce the risk of preventable infectious illness, and which families could adopt into their everyday routines.

More than half of Americans (55%) believe that they will catch cold or flu from infected people outside of the home and 52% believe they will either catch or pass on cold or flu to a member of their family.¹

One way to prevent the risk of infectious illness is by regularly cleaning and disinfecting the home. However, these behaviors are not the norm in many households, with less than half (48%) of Americans taking extra hygiene measures around the home during cold and flu season.

The bathroom and kitchen, two places often associated with germs, are not subject to regular and consistent cleaning in all households. When it comes to commonly touched surfaces around the household where germs are present, the following surfaces are overlooked during daily cleaning:

- Kitchen work tops (54%)
- Cupboard and fridge door handles (89%)
- Bathroom sink taps (89%)
- Toilet flush handles (90%)

Frequent hand washing is another vital way to stop the spread of illness. How do adults and children compare when it comes to hand washing habits?

- Adults are more likely to regularly wash hands in most situations where they may be in contact with germs. However, in one category, public transport, children do a better job of always washing hands (37% of children, compared to 25% of adults).

For more information on Healthy Habits, visit Lysol.com/HealthyHabits.

Members of the 2016 Global Hygiene Council

----
Professor John Oxford, Visiting Professor of Virology at Queen Mary’s School of Medicine and Dentistry, Chair of the Global Hygiene Council, world’s leading expert on influenza and the pathogenicity of influenza, Visiting Professor of Virology at St Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry

Professor Philip M. Tierno, Director Clinical Microbiology and Immunology, New York University Langone Medical Center, Clinical Professor of Microbiology and Pathology, New York University School of Medicine, USA

Professor Barry D. Schoub, Executive Director, National Institute for Communicable Diseases, Johannesburg, South Africa

Dr. Christopher Lee, Consultant Physician Infectious Diseases, Sungai Buloh Hospital, Malaysia

Professor Martin Exner, Managing Director, Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, University of Bonn, Germany

Professor Carlo Signorelli, Full Professor of Hygiene and Public Health, University of Parma, Member of National Board of the Italian Society of Hygiene, Preventive Medicine and Public Health (SItl) and Provincial Councillor for Environmental Policies (Lecco, Italy), Italy

Professor Tariq Ahmed Madani, Professor of Medicine and Infectious Diseases, Faculty of Medicine, King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, Advisor to His Excellency the Minister of Health, Ministry of Health, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Dr. Kgosi Letlape, Executive Director of the Tshepang Trust, President of the Africa Medical Association, immediate Past Chairperson of the South African Medical Association (SAMA) and Past President of the World Medical Association (WMA), South Africa

Professor Dominic Dwyer, Clinical Professor, Immunology & Infectious Diseases, University of Sydney and Professor of Virology at Westmead Hospital, Sydney, Australia

Dr. Narendra Saini, Head of Department Microbiology & Immunology and Chairman Hospital Infection Control committee, Pushpanjali Crosslay Hospital, Vaishali, India

Professor Eitan N. Berezin, President Infectious Diseases Society, Brazilian Pediatrics Society, Brazil

Dr. Xuhui Zhong, Attending Physician, Department of Pediatrics, Peking University First Hospital, Beijing, China

Professor Patrice Courvalin, Director of Antibacterial Agents at the Institut Pasteur, Paris, France

Professor Mitsuo Kaku, Department of Infection Control & Laboratory Diagnostics, Tohoku University Graduate School of Medicine, Sendai, Japan

Dr. Nneoma Idika, Chief Research Fellow, Nigerian Institute of Medical Research, Lagos, Nigeria

Joe Rubino, Director Shared Services, R&D Laboratories, Reckitt Benckiser
Dr. Anucha Apisarnthanarak, Adjunct Professor of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases at Thammasat University Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, Pratumthani, Thailand, focusing on investigating outbreaks and emerging infectious diseases, such as avian influenza.

Dr. Hindra Irawan Satari, Head of the Infectious Diseases and Tropical Paediatrics Division, Faculty of Medicine, University of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia.