





# Infection prevention and control in homecare settings: Results of an observation and interview study

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#### Introduction

Infections are a significant cause of rehospitalisation in patients discharged from hospital who are receiving home care in the USA

Approximately 18% of unplanned admissions (Shang et al, 2015)

There is a lack of research into infection control and prevention in community/home care settings internationally







## **Aim**

To

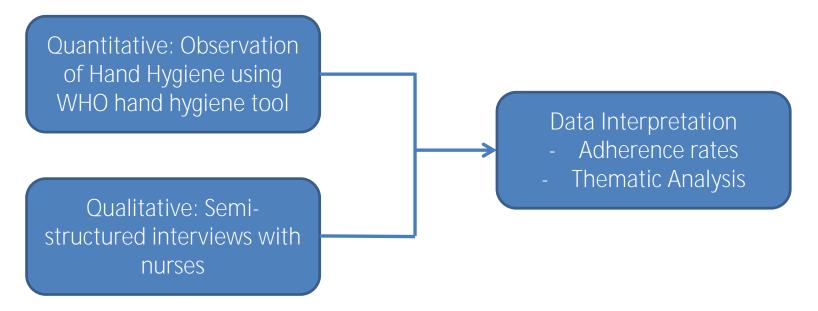






#### **Methods**

### Concurrent mixed methods study design



50 home care nurses from one Home Health Care Agency in NYC Observed for 8 home care visits

= 400 observations and 50 interviews









## **Results**















#### Results

Three key themes from analysis:

Intervention strategies to mitigate risk of infection

Barriers and facilitators to infection control practices and behaviours







#### Lack of available information

"You may miss that whole MRSA thing. But you can kind of tell if a person has a chronic wound and just kind of ask them, oh, "what kind of wound?" And you could tell by the type of antibiotic they've been" Anj







## Workload and time pressures

"No one's there to monitor them. And so sometimes a matter of rushing. I can see that they could be rushing...they have maybe more cases and they're spending more time on cases because where they may take two to three hours to do a start of care. And if they have three to four of those a day, I can see them rushing through someone they're working and just taking shortcuts."







# **Continuity of Care**

When the nurses switch too often. When it's not just one, or two, or







## The importance of context

"I just try and-- sometimes you can't even wash your hands because the sink is piled high with dishes and fruit flies, and **so you just do the best you can**. [ID205]

"I can't do anything about hygiene. I can't clean the pati the







#### **Discussion**

Previous research has highlighted that home care nurses self-reported a high-rate of compliance with infection control practices (Russell et al, 2018)

Our study highlights actual compliance with hand hygiene practices is low

The context of home care practice and the







#### References

Russell D, Dowding DW, McDonald MV, Adams V, Rosati RJ, Larson EL, Shang J. Factors for compliance with infection control practices in

attitudes toward infection control. *American Journal of Infection Control.* 2018. Volume 46, Issue 11, 1211 - 1217

Shang J, Larson E, Liu J, Stone P. Infection in home health care: Results from national Outcome and Assessment Information Set data. *American Journal of Infection Control.* 2015;43(5):454-459.

#### And of Interest:

Shang J, Russell D, Dowding D, McDonald M, Murtaugh C, Liu J, Larson E,







