

Hospital organizational factors impact protective practices of Canadian health care providers during COVID-19

Highlights

- Hand hygiene and eye protection use was higher among participants reporting a higher organizational factors score¹
- Use of face shield/goggles was higher among participants reporting a higher environmental factors score²
- Mask use was not associated with either organizational or environmental factors scores

STUDY AIM: To determine the organizational and environmental factors that influence health care providers' use of masks, face shields/goggles, and hand hygiene

Methods

Cross-sectional study (June 2020 to June 2023)



Percent reporting 100% use of facial protection and hand hygiene

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- 18-75 years old & provided > 1 hour/week of direct patient care
- Robust multivariable Poisson regression models adjusted for age, occupation, work area, province, and government-mandated mitigation requirements

Exposures		
¹ Organizational factors	 Organizational support for health and safety Absence of job hindrances Peer and supervisor feedback Conflict / communication 	
² Environmental factors	 Availability of supplies Training 	

Outcomes

relative to Canadian guidelines (N=1361)



Organizational and environmental factors associated with use of facial protection and practice of hand hygiene

Facial protection	IRR (95% CI)
Surgical mask/N95 respirator	
Organizational factors	0.99 (0.98, 1.01)
Environmental factors	0.99 (0.97, 1.01)
Goggles or face shield	

a) Hand hygiene before entering patient room

b) Hand hygiene after exiting patient room

c) Surgical mask or N95 respirator when caring for coughing patient d) Goggles or face shield when caring for coughing patient



Organizational factors Environmental factors	1.07 (1.02, 1.12) ‡ 1.06 (1.01, 1.12)*
Hand hygiene practice	IRR (95% CI)
Before entering patient room Organizational factors Environmental factors	1.07 (1.02, 1.13) ‡ 1.01 (0.95, 1.07)
After leaving patient room Organizational factors Environmental factors	1.04 (1.01, 1.08) ‡ 0.99 (0.96, 1.03)

IRR: incidence rate ratio (adjusted for age, occupation, work area, province of work, and level of mitigation requirements) *p<0.05; ‡p<0.01

Study Limitations

- Observational study with self-reported data
- COVID-19 restrictions/mitigation varied across time and place

Conclusions

- Organizational factors¹ are necessary above and beyond training and supplying equipment
- Lack of association between mask use and study factors suggests an influence from public health messaging during pandemic

Factors influencing health care providers' adherence to infection prevention and control measures in acute care settings during the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada

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