

Best Practices for SaniiSwab™ Nasal Decolonization Use

The SaniiSwab™, two-step, alcohol-based decolonization method is a proven infection prevention practice that's easy to use and can be self-administered to deliver the required compliance necessary for successful HAI reduction outcomes.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SANII SWAB™ USE

The SaniiSwab™ two-step, surgically proven nasal decolonization prep is easily incorporated into the healthcare facility's selected decolonization policy. Instructions for use (IFU) are as follows and can be self-administered in two easy steps:



STEP 1 PACKET: Open, remove and hold SaniiSwab™ handle between thumb and index finger. Insert swab — one into each nostril placing the swab against the nostril skin. Mechanically clean both nasal vestibules by rotating swabs in a circular motion at least seven times. Discard used cleansing swab and proceed to Step 2.



STEP 2 PACKET: Open, remove and hold SaniiSwab™ handle between thumb and index finger. Insert both swabs into cleansed nostrils placing swabs against the nostril skin. Sanitize the now clean nasal vestibules by rotating the swabs in a circular motion seven times. Discard the used sanitizing swab.

FREQUENCY OF SANII SWAB™ USE

Studies suggest the broader use of alcohol-based nasal decolonization protocols such as SaniiSwab™ for inpatient population in healthcare facilities enhances the reduction of HAIs, including the incidence of MRSA, bacteria and surgical site infections (SSIs).¹

While single daily use of SaniiSwab™ has been proven to be effective, more frequent daily applications of alcohol-based decolonization products must be delivered for colony suppression to minimize the opportunity for infection and pathogen transfer.² The following are evidenced-based suggested use guidelines for adults and children over the age of twelve:^{3,4}

- **Preoperative:** Two to three times daily; initial application 3-5 days prior to scheduled surgical procedure
- **Day of Surgery:** Within one hour immediately prior to surgical procedure and again post procedure
- **Postoperative:** Two to three times daily after surgery for two weeks or 5-7 days after discharge
- **High-Risk Areas (ICU, Immunocompromised Patient Units):** Two to three times daily
- **Inpatient:** One to two times per day
- **Healthcare Practitioners (HCP):** Two to three times per work shift based on length of shift in all high-risk areas

The importance of nasal decolonization as part of a facility's disinfection protocol for the reduction of HAIs **cannot be understated**. Prior research has found that higher *S. aureus* loads in the nares are associated with a higher likelihood of colonization and the potential for the development of infection.⁵

BACKGROUND

The use of SaniSwab™, an alcohol-based nasal hygiene, decolonization technique has been proven to be an effective infection prevention practice supporting the reduction of hospital-associated infections (HAIs).⁶

Targeted decolonization and universal decolonization are policy strategies employed by healthcare facilities for the prevention of HAIs, particularly those caused by methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA).⁷

The CDC defines targeted decolonization as treatment for those individuals already known to be colonized with MRSA, while universal decolonization is therapy for all at-risk patients regardless of screening status.

Recent evidence suggests there is a movement away from the targeted approach reserved for high-risk patients to one that favors horizontal or a universal strategy, which incorporates more extended patient populations within the healthcare facility.⁸

REFERENCES

¹<https://nevoainc.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/JUNE-SaniSwab-Case-Study.pdf>

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³<https://www.aorn.org/outpatient-surgery/article/is-universal-nasal-decolonization-the-standard-of-care>

⁴<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0196655319303190>

⁵[https://www.ajicjournal.org/article/S0196-6553\(23\)00073-1/fulltext](https://www.ajicjournal.org/article/S0196-6553(23)00073-1/fulltext)

⁶https://academic.oup.com/ofid/article/6/Supplement_2/S268/5603884

⁷<https://www.aorn.org/outpatient-surgery/article/2020-October-understanding-your-nasal-decolonization-choices>

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