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Dr. Schumacher

# 5 tips for more safety at the Point-of-Care (POC)

## Set an Example

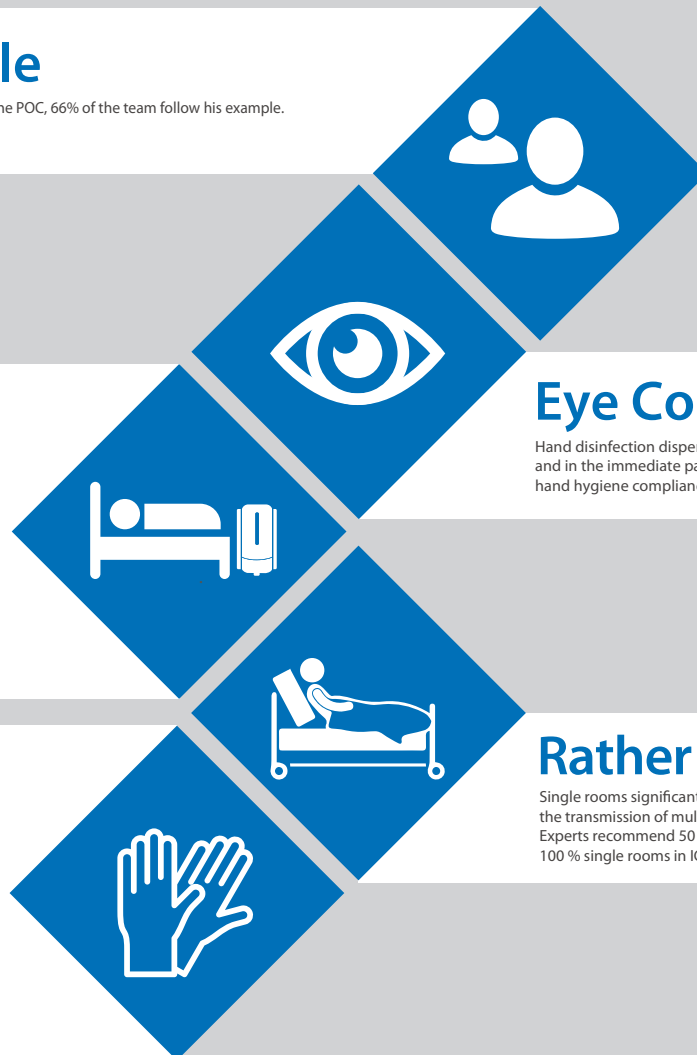
If the attending physician disinfects his hands at the POC, 66% of the team follow his example. If he does not, compliance drops to 42% [1].

## Footboard

One hand disinfectant dispenser at the foot of each ICU bed and one dispenser per two patient beds in the normal ward - these are the recommendations of the WHO for better infection prevention at the POC [3,4].

## Alternative Thinking

Wearing gloves is often perceived by staff as a substitute for hand disinfection. Glove disinfection in selected situations on the same patient can be a solution - after careful training [6].



## Eye Contact

Hand disinfection dispensers placed in highly visible locations and in the immediate patient environment significantly increase hand hygiene compliance [2].

## Rather Alone

Single rooms significantly reduce the number of nosocomial infections and the transmission of multidrug-resistant pathogens compared with shared rooms. Experts recommend 50 % single rooms in normal wards and, if possible, 100 % single rooms in ICU [5].



Dr. Schumacher

Dr. Schumacher GmbH  
Am Roggenfeld 3  
34323 Malsfeld

Postanschrift:  
Postfach 11 62  
34201 Melsungen

T +49 5664 9496-0  
F +49 5664 8444  
internationalsales@schumacher-online.com  
www.schumacher-online.com

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