

CQC Guidance - Hand washing signs

Do practices need to have signs to instruct people to wash hands? Answer – No

CQC does not stipulate that there must be laminated hand washing signs at all hand basins. Where there is no guidance from CQC, we would look towards national guidance. There is no national guidance that states hand washing signs should be in place above hand basins.

What CQC would look for in relation to hand hygiene during an inspection is that:

- there is adequate hand washing facilities available and easily accessible to all staff
- practice staff should notify the practice manager of any lack of hand hygiene products (hand gels, soap or hand towels), or obstruction of to ensure that these remain available at all times and are not obstructed by bins or equipment
- all clinical staff are trained in hand washing techniques
- the practice has thought about risks of inadequate hand hygiene and processes are in place to prevent poor hand hygiene.