

**RES03-B**

**TOPIC: IN SUPPORT OF THE USE OF ALCOHOL-BASED  
HANDRUBBING SOLUTIONS BY HEALTHCARE  
WORKERS IN THE CLINICAL SETTING.**

**SUBMITTED BY: Maurine Church Coburn School of Nursing at  
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1 WHEREAS, population-based surveillance studies of nosocomial infections in  
2 U.S. hospitals indicate and incidence of between 5 and 10  
3 infections per 1,000 pt days (Wenzel); and  
4 WHEREAS, hand hygiene measures are the single most important strategy  
5 for preventing nosocomial infections (Johns Hopkins Hospital  
6 2001); and  
7 WHEREAS, during routine patient care hand rubbing with an alcohol-based  
8 solution is significantly more efficient in reducing hand  
9 contamination than hand washing with antiseptic soap (Girou  
10 2002); and  
11 WHEREAS, adherence of healthcare workers to recommended hand-hygiene  
12 procedures has been poor, with an overall average of 40%  
13 (CDC 2002); and  
14 WHEREAS, CDC is recommending the use of alcohol-based hand rubs by  
15 health care personnel for patient care because they address some of  
16 the obstacles healthcare professionals face when taking care of  
17 patients (CDC 2002); and  
18 WHEREAS, in and observational study in a French university hospital in which  
19 925 opportunities for hand cleansing were observed, the comp-  
20 liance rate after the implementation of hand rubbing with an  
21 alcohol-based liquid or gel increased to 66% to 43% before  
22 the intervention (Bissett 2002); and  
23 WHEREAS, the CDC recommends that to maximize acceptance of hand-

24 hygiene products by HCW’s institutions should solicit input  
25 from these employees regarding the feel, fragrance and skin  
26 tolerance of any products under consideration (CDC 2002); and  
27 WHEREAS, the National Student Nurse Association, Inc. Code of  
28 Academic and Clinical Conduct states that within the academic  
29 and Clinical environments nursing students “Collaborate  
30 in every reasonable manner with the academic faculty and clinical  
31 staff to ensure the highest quality of client care.” (NSNA 2001);  
32 therefore be it  
33 RESOLVED, that California Nursing Student Association (CNSA) support the  
34 CDC’s current hand hygiene guidelines; and be it further  
35 RESOLVED, that CNSA support programs for all healthcare workers on the use  
36 of alcohol-based hand rubbing solutions in curbing the spread of  
37 pathogens; and be it further  
38  
39 RESOLVED, that CNSA encourage updated information regarding hand-  
40 hygiene to be included in nursing curricula; and be it further  
41 RESOLVED, that CNSA, if feasible, publish articles in *Range of Motion* on the  
42 use and development of alcohol-based hand rubbing solutions;  
43 and be it further  
44 RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the American Nurses  
45 Association/California, the National League for Nursing, the  
46 California Association of Colleges of Nursing, the Association  
47 of California Nurse Leaders, the Centers for Disease Control and  
48 Prevention, and any others deemed appropriate by the CNSA  
49 Board of Directors.