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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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### Deep River and District Hospital Remains Committed to Patient Safety

Deep River, ON, May 4, 2009- Recently the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) made the announcement the patient safety indicator *Hand Hygiene*, is now a mandatory reporting initiative. Deep River and District Hospital is ranked among the top five spots for hand hygiene compliance based on audits conducted during the months of March and April; the results of the audits and other patient safety data is available on the DRDH website, and on the MOHLTC's website [www.ontario.ca/patientsafety](http://www.ontario.ca/patientsafety) .

“The monthly reporting to the MOHLTC as well as the publishing of relevant infection control safety indicators on the DRDH website will enable our hospital to improve performance and strengthen public confidence in our health care services,” Rita Montgomery, Infection Control and Occupational Health Nurse at DRDH says, “The Hand Hygiene program at DRDH has proven to be very successful as evidenced by the 93.2% compliance rate. This is an excellent achievement, given that the Ontario baseline compliance rate is less than approximately 60%.”

Research shows that hand hygiene is the single most effective way to reduce the risk of healthcare-associated infections, and Deep River and District Hospital has demonstrated a strong commitment to ensuring the overall safety and wellbeing of patients.

For more information regarding mandatory reporting or about the hand hygiene initiative visit [www.drdh.org](http://www.drdh.org)