**Purpose**

1. To maintain medical asepsis to control infection
2. To reduce transmission of organisms from:
   1. resident to resident
   2. direct care staff to resident
   3. resident to direct care staff

**Procedure**

1. Turn on water and adjust temperature
2. Soap hands well
3. Rub hands briskly for 20 seconds (2 rounds of the “Happy Birthday” song), pay special attention to area between fingers
4. Use brush to clean under nails if necessary
5. Rinse with hands lowered to allow soiled water to drain directly into sink
6. Do not allow hands to touch inside of sink
7. Dry hands well, especially between fingers
8. May use disposable hand towel to turn off faucet
9. May use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer between hand washing with soap and water unless there is visible soiling
10. Apply moisture barrier as needed when necessary