

[0014] In either case however it is currently not possible to align the numerator (the actual number of hand hygiene events that occur) with specific guidelines or recommended practices. Rather the numerator is valid only at the overall level.

BRIEF SUMMARY

[0014a] According to a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method of monitoring compliance with two or more recommended bases for hand care, the method comprising: receiving an indication identifying a recommended basis for hand care; on receipt of the indication identifying a recommended basis for hand care, unlocking a hand care product dispenser for operation; receiving an indication that the hand care product dispenser has operated to dispense a hand care product; and associating the indication of the basis for hand care with the indicated use of the hand care product dispenser.

[0014b] According to a second aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method for monitoring bases for use of a hand care product, the method comprising: providing a reporting panel with which a basis for use of a hand care product is identified and that communicates an indication of the identified basis and upon identifying a recommended basis for hand care, unlocking a hand care product dispenser for operation and providing a monitoring system for receiving an indication of the basis for use of a hand care product from the reporting panel.

[0014c] According to a third aspect of the present invention, there is provided a reporting panel for reporting a basis for use of a hand care product dispenser, the reporting panel comprising: a plurality of selectable sensors, at least a subset of the

sensors each associated with a basis for hand care; a processor for identifying a recommended basis for hand care, and upon identifying a recommended basis unlocking a hand care product dispenser for operation; a transmitter that communicates an identification of the selected sensor to a monitoring system.

[0014d] According to a fourth aspect of the present invention, there is provided a hand care product dispenser comprising: a receiver that receives an indication that a basis for hand care has been identified; and a dispensing apparatus for dispensing hand care product on the condition that the receiver receives indication that a basis for hand care has been identified.

[0015] The disclosure provides a reporting panel that communicates with a monitoring system. The reporting panel is operated by a user and reports information about a hand care event for which a hand care product is provided by a dispenser. One application of the present invention is reporting which of a number of guidelines or circumstances is the basis for a hand care event. The present technology may augment a system that monitors dispenser use by identifying a particular guideline or circumstance that is the basis for using the dispenser.

[0016] As disclosed, a reporting panel has a number of alternatives that may be selected. The alternatives may be presented by individual buttons, regions of a touch panel or other distinct operable or sensing devices that may be associated with guidelines or circumstances to identify a basis for use of a hand care event.

[0017] The disclosure also provides a reporting panel for reporting a guideline or circumstance that is the basis for hand care that may be associated with use of a dispenser within a region of an institution that is proximate to the reporting panel.

CLAIMS

1. A method of monitoring compliance with two or more recommended bases for hand care, the method comprising:

receiving an indication identifying a recommended basis for hand care;

on receipt of the indication identifying a recommended basis for hand care, unlocking a hand care product dispenser for operation;

receiving an indication that the hand care product dispenser has operated to dispense a hand care product; and

associating the indication of the basis for hand care with the indicated use of the hand care product dispenser.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving the indication identifying a recommended basis for a hand care receives the indication from a reporting panel with which one of a plurality of recommended bases for hand care may be selected.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving an indication of a basis for hand care and the step of receiving an indication that a hand care product dispenser has operated comprise receiving both indications from the hand care product dispenser.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving an indication of a basis for hand care includes receiving a time that the indication was created, the step of receiving an indication that a hand care product dispenser has operated includes

receiving a time that the hand care dispenser operated and the step of the associating the indication of a basis for hand care with the indicated use of the hand care product dispenser comprises determining a length of time between creation of the indication of the basis for hand care and operation of the hand care product dispenser.

5. A method for monitoring bases for use of a hand care product, the method comprising:

providing a reporting panel with which a basis for use of a hand care product is identified and that communicates an indication of the identified basis and upon identifying a recommended basis for hand care, unlocking a hand care product dispenser for operation and

providing a monitoring system for receiving an indication of the basis for use of a hand care product from the reporting panel.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the one of a plurality of recommended bases for use of a hand care product may be selected with the reporting panel.

7. The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of providing a hand care product dispenser that communicates an indication that a hand care product has been dispensed and the step of associating the indication of a basis for use of a hand care product with the indication that a hand care product has been dispensed, and wherein the step of providing a monitoring system further comprises providing a monitoring system that receives an indication that a hand care product has been dispensed.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the step of associating the indication of a basis for use of a hand care product with the indication that a hand care product has been dispensed comprises determining a length of time between identification of the basis for hand care and dispensing of the hand care product.

9. The method of claim 6, wherein the reporting panel is sized and constructed to be carried by a person.

10. A reporting panel for reporting a basis for use of a hand care product dispenser, the reporting panel comprising:

a plurality of selectable sensors, at least a subset of the sensors each associated with a basis for hand care;

a processor for identifying a recommended basis for hand care, and upon identifying a recommended basis unlocking a hand care product dispenser for operation;

a transmitter that communicates an identification of the selected sensor to a monitoring system.

11. The reporting panel of claim 10, wherein the transmitter is a wireless transmitter.

12. The reporting panel of claim 10, wherein the transmitter transmits via a wired connection.

13. A hand care product dispenser comprising:
a receiver that receives an indication that a basis for hand care has been identified;
and
a dispensing apparatus for dispensing hand care product on the condition that the receiver receives indication that a basis for hand care has been identified.

14. The hand care product dispenser of claim 13, wherein the receiver receives wireless communication.

15. The hand care product dispenser of claim 13, further comprising a reporting panel for reporting a basis for use of a hand care product dispenser, the reporting panel including a wireless transmitter and wherein the receiver receives wireless communication from the reporting panel.

16. The hand care product dispenser of claim 13, further comprising a reporting panel for reporting the basis for use of a hand care dispenser, the reporting panel including a wired transmitter, a wired connection connects the reporting panel to the receiver and wherein the receiver receives communication via the wired connection from the reporting panel.