



Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Toolkit (Worked Example)

Introduction to the Worked Example: Planning Implementation of Hand washing Guidelines.

Hand hygiene compliance is critical to preventing spread of infections in many settings, including hospitals and health care centers. Existing data suggests that hospital patients in low- and middle-income countries are exposed to rates of healthcare associated infections at least 2-times more often than in high income countries. In addition to the universal challenges to the implementation of effective hand hygiene strategies, hospitals in low- and middle-income countries face a range of unique challenges (see Watson, D’Mello-Guyett, Flynn (2019); Loftus, Guitart, Tartari et al. (2019) and Xu, Shi, Yang et al. (2021)).

Questions:

What are the Barriers and Facilitators to the implementation of hand washing guidelines in health care facilities in LMICs?

What are evidence based implementation strategies to address identified Barriers & Facilitators?

Reference: 1. Watson J, D’Mello-Guyett L, Flynn E, et al Interventions to improve water supply and quality, sanitation and handwashing facilities in healthcare facilities, and their effect on healthcare-associated infections in low-income and middle-income countries: a systematic review and supplementary scoping review *BMJ Global Health* 2019;**4** **2. Loftus MJ, Guitart C, Tartari E, Stewardson AJ, Amer F, Bellissimo-Rodrigues F, Lee YF, Mehtar S, Sithole BL, Pittet D.** Hand hygiene in low- and middle-income countries. *Int J Infect Dis.* 2019 Sep;**86**:25-30. **3. Xun Y, Shi Q, Yang N, Yang N, Li Y, Si W, Shi Q, Wang Z, Liu X, Yu X, Zhou Q, Yang M, Chen Y.** Associations of hand washing frequency with the incidence of illness: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Ann Transl Med.* 2021 Mar;**9**(5):395.

How to use this Example:

Barriers & Facilitators are factors that can impact (positively or negatively) the implementation of evidence-based tools and can be found at three different levels of practice:

- 1) the Patient/Community level;
- 2) the Health Provider level and;
- 3) the Health System level.

Implementation strategies are ways to address Barriers & Facilitators and can be used to improve the implementation of a specific evidence-based policy or guideline.

Over the next few slides, users will be shown how to use the toolkit to a) identify specific Barriers & Facilitators related to an example evidence based guideline and b) how to select strategies to address the identified Barriers & Facilitators using **the example of a hand washing guideline.**

Five questions to consider when planning for implementation of an evidence based policy or guideline:

1.	WHY is there a need for change?
2.	WHAT needs to change?
3.	WHO needs to change?
4.	WHY would they change or not change their practice?
5.	HOW could they change?

Reference: Straus S, Tetroe J, Graham I, Leung E. "Knowledge-to-action: what it is and what it isn't". *Knowledge Translation in Health Care* Available: <https://ktbooks.ca/knowledge-translation-in-health-care/teaching-resources/section-1-1-knowledge-to-action-what-it-is-and-what-it-isnt/>

Worked Example: Hand washing Guidelines

In this example, we want everyone (patients, health care providers, family members, hospital workers etc.) to wash their hands before and after every contact with a patient, patient surroundings, body fluids, and before clean procedure.



UNITY HEALTH TORONTO **HAND WASHING WITH SOAP & WATER** Last updated 2020-MAY-20 10:00

LATHER HANDS FOR 20 SECS & UP

Wet hands with warm water

SOAP
Apply enough soap to cover all hand surfaces

PALMS OF HANDS + WEBS
Rub palms together, slide hands back & forth so fingers interlock and webs are rubbed

BACK OF HANDS + WEBS
Rub back of hands with palm of opposite hand, slide hands back & forth so fingers interlock and webs are rubbed

CONTINUE TO LATHER HANDS

FINGERTIPS
Rub fingertips of each hand into the opposite palm in a circular motion

KNUCKLES
Rub knuckles by curling fingers & twisting hands, repeat on opposite side

THUMB
Rub each thumb from base to tip in a circular motion

OUTSIDE OF HAND
Rub outside border of each hand into the opposite palm

WRIST
Rub each wrist with the opposite hand in a circular motion

RINSE
Rinse thoroughly under running water

DRY HANDS
Pat hands dry with paper towel

TURN OFF FAUCET
Use towel to turn off faucet

CLEAN HANDS
Your hands are now safe

Reference: Unity Health Toronto. Hand Hygiene Compliance. Updated May 20, 2020. Available from: https://unityhealth.to/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Hand-Washing_20200520_1600_compressed.pdf

<p>1. Why is there a need for change?</p>	<p>Hospital acquired infections are an important cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide, with lack of proper hand washing techniques an important contributor</p>
<p>2. What needs to change?</p>	<p>To address this challenge, improved compliance with evidence based hand washing policy and/or guideline is needed.</p>
<p>3. Who needs to change?</p>	<p>Everyone who has contact with patients, including: health care workers, hospital workers (i.e. like cleaners, food handlers), and community members (i.e. a patient's family, visitors to the hospital).</p>
<p>4. Why would they change or not change their practice?</p>	<p>Factors (positive or negative) that can impact the implementation of a hand washing guideline (i.e. Barriers & Facilitators).</p>
<p>5. How could they change?</p>	<p>Use of evidence based implementation strategies to address identified Barriers and Facilitators of change can increase the successful implementation of a handwashing policy or guideline within a health care facility</p>

In this example, the toolkit will be used to answer these questions:

4. Why would they change or not change their practice?

Factors (positive or negative) that can impact the implementation of a hand washing guideline (i.e. Barriers & Facilitators).

5. How could they change?

Use of evidence based implementation strategies to address identified Barriers & Facilitators of change can increase the successful implementation of a hand washing policy or guideline within a health care facility

Where to find the toolkit's instructions:

Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Kit

[ABOUT THIS TOOLKIT](#) [START A NEW ASSESSMENT](#)

Introduction to Toolkit

The implementation of evidence-based clinical guidelines, policies or health system interventions are impacted by a variety of Barriers & Facilitators, which are factors that can either hinder or support implementation efforts. Barriers & Facilitators affect implementation efforts at three different levels:

1. The Patient/Community level;
2. The Provider Level and;
3. The Health System Level.

Identifying Barriers & Facilitators, and developing strategies to address them, is key to successful implementation.

The aim of this toolkit is:

1. To assist users in identifying Barriers (i.e. challenges) & Facilitators (i.e. opportunities) that can impact the implementation of evidence-based practices.
2. To assist users in selecting strategies to address these Barriers & Facilitators in order to increase users' success in the implementation of evidence-based practices.

How to use the toolkit?

This toolkit can be used by a wide variety of users—including health workers (i.e. physicians, nurses, midwives etc.), policy makers, program administrators, policymakers, patients/community representatives). This variety of perspectives will increase those involved in and impacted by implementation.

In assessing Barriers & Facilitators and developing strategies to address them in implementation planning, it is important to involve clinicians, program administrators, policymakers, patients/community representatives). This variety of perspectives will increase those involved in and impacted by implementation.

With this in mind, we encourage users to use this toolkit in a group setting whether in person or online. The process of working together and/or varying different participants to be understood and incorporated into implementation planning. In working through comfortable sharing their personal opinions and experiences, and allow enough time for all perspectives to be heard and discussed.

Definitions

Below are some key definitions/terms to keep in mind when using the toolkit:

Barriers are factors that limit or block the evidence-based practices. For example, a lack of resources (like drugs or equipment).

Facilitators are factors that promote the use of evidence-based practices. For example, a local community leader supporting the implementation of evidence-based practices.

Health Systems Level: Barriers & Facilitators at this level involve factors related to how a health system works (or does not work). An example of a health system barrier would be an organization's commitment to fund the implementation of a particular health guideline.

Provider Level: Barriers & Facilitators at this level include the beliefs, knowledge or skills of health care providers. An example of a provider-level barrier would be a provider's belief in the importance of or value of implementing a guideline or tool.

Patient/Community Level: Barriers & Facilitators at this level affect patients and/or communities. An example of a patient-level barrier would be a patient's lack of knowledge or understanding of a health condition.

To use this toolkit, please follow these steps:

1. To start a new assessment, click "START A NEW ASSESSMENT" button. Assessments are saved by date and are available to you.
2. Begin your assessment by selecting the START button beside the "PATIENT/COMMUNITY" level option. This will take users to a list of Barriers & Facilitators. The Barriers & Facilitators are listed separately and are grouped by (e.g. financial resources).
3. Select the Barriers & Facilitators that apply to your group's specific context or situation and specific evidence-based toolsets. What factors either positively or negatively affect the implementation of your evidence-based guideline and why?
 - The total number of Barriers & Facilitators you select will be tracked and you can keep track of them on the first page of the assessment.
 - At the end of each section, users will have the option to add any additional Barriers & Facilitators that may not have been included on the lists.
4. Once users have completed the assessment at the PATIENT/COMMUNITY level, they can continue on to the "PROVIDER" and "HEALTH SYSTEMS" levels and complete steps 2 and 3 again. Users are free to move back and forth between levels at all times and are not required to complete all levels. However, users are encouraged to consider all levels so that important factors that may impact implementation efforts are not overlooked. We recommend beginning with the F

Select the **ABOUT THIS TOOLKIT** button on the home screen for the instructions.

Clicking this button, will bring up the toolkit instructions.

Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Kit

[ABOUT THIS TOOLKIT](#) [START A NEW ASSESSMENT](#)

Assessments **Barriers** **Facilitators**

Instructions on how to use the toolkit can be found in two places. First, you can access the instructions by selecting the **ABOUT THIS TOOLKIT** button on the home page. Second, you can access the instructions at any point in the toolkit by clicking on the ? button located in the upper right hand corner.

Step 1: Start a new assessment

When you click on the link for the toolkit, it will take you to the home page of the “Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Kit.” To begin, click the button that says **START A NEW ASSESSMENT**. For the toolkit’s full instructions click the button that says **ABOUT THIS TOOLKIT**.

The screenshot shows the home page of the Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Kit. At the top is a purple header with the text "Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Kit" and a small circular icon on the right. Below the header is a navigation bar with two buttons: "ABOUT THIS TOOLKIT" and "START A NEW ASSESSMENT". A callout arrow points from the text "Click here to access the instructions for the toolkit" to the "ABOUT THIS TOOLKIT" button. Another callout arrow points from the text "Click here to start a new assessment" to the "START A NEW ASSESSMENT" button. Below the navigation bar is a large yellow rounded rectangle containing a line-art illustration of five diverse people sitting around a table, engaged in a discussion. To the right of this illustration is a white rectangular area with three tabs: "Assessments", "Barriers", and "Facilitators". The "Assessments" tab is currently selected and is highlighted with a thin purple border.

Step 2: Start with the Patient/Community Level

Begin your assessment by selecting the **VIEW** button beside the **PATIENT/COMMUNITY** level option. This will take you to a list of Barriers & Facilitators, which are listed separately and are grouped by topic/theme.

Keeps track of how many Barriers & Facilitators you identify at each level of access

Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Kit

This tool helps you identify barriers across three different levels of access.

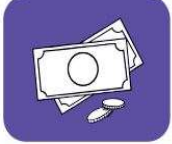
Level	Barriers	Facilitators	
Patient/Community	0	0	VIEW
Health Provider	0	0	VIEW
Health System	0	0	VIEW

Levels of Access

Select **VIEW** to access each level

Step 3: Select Barriers & Facilitators at Patient/Community Level

Patient/Community Level (Barriers)



Check the box beside each Barrier & Facilitator that is relevant to your context.

Once users have completed their selections at the **Patient/Community Level**, they can move on to the **Health Provider Level**.

Barriers	Description
Financial Resources	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Financial constraints at patient level leading to delays in health care seeking/missed appointments x x x Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cost of maternal care (including transportation) x x x Lack of money to buy soap and/or sanitizer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Unable to leave job for medical appointments x x x Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
Knowledge and Beliefs	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lack of knowledge/understanding of reasons for health advice given x x x Lack of knowledge of correct way to wash hands; lack of understanding of the risk of spreading infection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of trust among patients/preference to be seen by higher level health worker x x x Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
Quality of Care	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lack of proper infrastructure x x x Limited access to clean water, soap, hand sanitizer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Health providers' mistreatment during childbirth and/or disrespect and abuse of patients x x x Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.

In this example, 3 Barriers have been identified at the **Patient/Community level** and have been selected by **ticking the green box beside them on the left**.

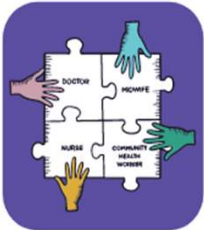
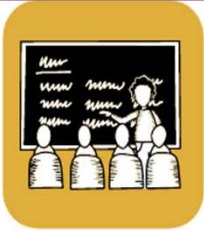
The text box beside each Barrier or Facilitator may be used to provide detail specific to the policy/guideline to be implemented

Step 4 : Select Barriers & Facilitators at Health Provider Level

Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Kit

Health Provider Level (Barriers)

Barriers	Description
Training/Knowledge/Skills	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Poor quality of training/inadequate curriculum/lack of hands on/skill based training	Staff not trained in proper hand washing
<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of training capacity/time to attend training, including training of trainers	Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of baseline education among health care workers making training difficult	Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
Access/Awareness	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of awareness of the guidelines/evidence	Lack of awareness around proper hand washing guidelines
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of communication/interprofessional collaboration, ethnic/cultural differences, lack of cooperation/blaming	Handwashing practices not audited: hospital



Check the box beside each Barrier & Facilitator that is relevant to your context.

For this example, 3 Barriers have been identified at the **Health Provider Level**.

Beside each Barrier or Facilitator, users are able to use the text box to provide more detail about their choice

Step 4 : Select Barriers & Facilitators at Health Provider Level

Health Provider Level (Facilitators)

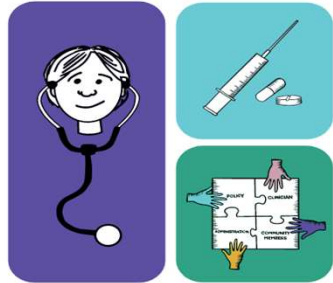
In this example, 2 Facilitators have been identified at the **Health Provider Level**.

Once users have completed their selections at the **Health Provider Level**, they can move on to the **System Level**.

Facilitators	Description
Training/Knowledge/Skills	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suggested incorporate capacity building in the use and implementation of evidence into undergraduate and continuing health care provider education training	★ ★ ★ Early training in proper hand washing technique.
<input type="checkbox"/> Improved ongoing training and monitoring of competencies necessary for evidence implementation	★ ★ ★ Please use this space to add any additional information about the facilitator selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
Attitudes and Beliefs	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evidence that guideline strategies are effective	★ ★ ★ Educate staff on evidence for handwashing.
<input type="checkbox"/> Strong leadership/supervision	★ ★ ★ Please use this space to add any additional information about the facilitator selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.

Step 4 : Select Barriers & Facilitators at Health System Level

Toolkit users will finish their Barriers & Facilitators assessment with the **Health System Level**.



Check the box beside each Barrier & Facilitator that is relevant to your context.

Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Kit

Health System Level (Barriers)

Barriers	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of equipment and supplies especially in small/rural centres	Lack of easy access to fresh water, soap, hand sanitizer
<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of medications especially in small/rural centres	Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting.
<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of integration/collaboration of health care resources	Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of ability to smoothly transfer patients/or coordinate care across health systems level	Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inadequate funding of health care	Materials needed for hand washing not available
<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of information sharing: new guidelines, trainings attended by others	Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of awareness of guidelines: lead to not ordering or supplying meds/supplies	Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of feedback to providers on outcomes that are monitored	Handwashing audit and hospital acquired infection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of mechanism to collect high-quality data for monitoring and evaluation	Lack of mechanism to audit hand washing and track
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of ability to document and monitor implementation and current practice	Lack of mechanism to audit hand washing and track

Beside each Barrier, users are able to use the text box to provide more detail about their choice

In this example, 5 Barriers have been identified at the **Health Systems Level**.

Step 4 : Select Barriers & Facilitators at Health System Level

Health System Level (Facilitators)

Check the box beside each Barrier & Facilitator that is relevant to your

Facilitators	Description
Material and Financial Resources	
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial commitment to training (stipends, opportunities for refresher training)	★ ★ ★ Please use this space to add any additional information about the facilitator selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
<input type="checkbox"/> Pay unpaid volunteer health workers (i.e. midwives)	★ ★ ★ Please use this space to add any additional information about the facilitator selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
Communication/Information Sharing	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improved monitoring and evaluation, such as use of delivery books	★ ★ ★ Monitor and share hand washing audit and hospital guideline

In this example, 5 Barriers have been identified at the **Health Systems Level**.

In this example, 1 Facilitator has been identified at the **Health Systems Level**.

Keeping Track of Selected Barriers & Facilitators

Barriers & Facilitators for this example have been assessed at the **Patient/Community Level, Health Provider Level** and the **Health Systems level**. The next step is to organize these selections and determine which ones will have the biggest impact on the implementation of a handwashing guideline.

The total number of Barriers & Facilitators will be tracked on the front page of the user's assessment

The screenshot shows the 'Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Kit' interface. At the top, a purple header contains the title and a help icon. Below the header, a text box states: 'This tool helps you identify barriers across three different levels of access.' To the right is a table with three columns: 'Level', 'Barriers', and 'Facilitators'. The table has three rows: 'Patient/Community', 'Health Provider', and 'Health System'. Each row has a 'VIEW' link on the right. Annotations include a box 'Keeps track of how many Barriers & Facilitators you identify at each level of access' pointing to the table, a box 'Levels of Access' pointing to the 'Level' column, and a box 'Select VIEW to access each level' pointing to the 'VIEW' links.

Level	Barriers	Facilitators	
Patient/Community	3	0	VIEW
Health Provider	3	2	VIEW
Health System	5	1	VIEW

Step 5: Organizing Barriers & Facilitators

After you have completed your initial assessment, as a group you can organize your choices by considering what factors will have the biggest impact on implementation efforts and using the **Xs** and **★**s .

The Barriers with the biggest potential impact (i.e. ones that are of high importance) should have 3 xs and the Barriers with the smallest potential impact (i.e. ones that are of low importance) should have 1 x.

The Facilitators with the biggest potential impact (i.e. ones that are of high importance) should have 3 stars and the Facilitators with the smallest potential impact (i.e. ones that are of low importance should have 1 star).

Step 5: Organizing Barriers & Facilitators: Patient/Community Level

Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Kit

Patient/Community Level (Barriers)



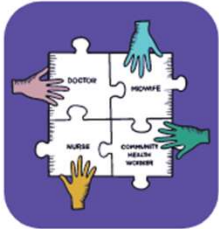
Barriers	Description
Financial Resources	
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial constraints at patient level leading to delays in health care seeking/missed appointments	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cost of maternal care (including transportation)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of money to buy soap and/or sanitizer
<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to leave job for medical appointments	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
Knowledge and Beliefs	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of knowledge/understanding of reasons for health advice given	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of knowledge of correct way to wash hands; lack of understanding of the risk of
<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of trust among patients/preference to be seen by higher level health worker	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
Quality of Care	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of proper infrastructure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Limited access to clean water, soap, hand sanitizer
<input type="checkbox"/> Health providers' mistreatment during childbirth and/or disrespect and abuse of patients	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.

The Barriers with the biggest potential impact (i.e. ones that are of high importance) should have 3 Xs highlighted (red) and the Barriers with the smallest potential impact (i.e. ones that are of low importance) should have 1 X.

Users can organize their selections by considering what factors will have the biggest impact on implementation efforts.

Step 5: Organizing Barriers & Facilitators: Health Provider Level

Health Provider Level (Barriers)



Barriers	Description
Training/Knowledge/Skills	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Poor quality of training/inadequate curriculum/lack of health care workers	Staff not trained in proper hand washing
<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of training capacity/time to attend training, including training of trainers	Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of baseline education among health care workers making training difficult	Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
Access/Awareness	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of awareness of the guidelines/evidence	Lack of awareness around proper hand washing guidelines
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of communication/interprofessional collaboration, cooperation/blaming	Handwashing practices not audited: hospital

Step 5: Organizing Barriers & Facilitators: Health Provider Level

Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Kit

Health Provider Level (Facilitators)

The Facilitators with the biggest potential impact (i.e. ones that are of high importance) should have 3 stars highlighted (yellow) and the Facilitators with the smallest potential impact (i.e. ones that are of low importance) should have 1 star.

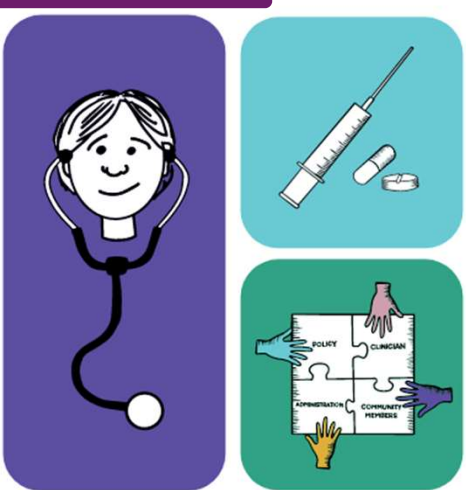
Users can organize their selections by considering what factors will have the biggest impact on implementation efforts.

Facilitators	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suggested incorporate capacity building in the use and implementation of evidence into undergraduate and continuing health care provider education training	Early training in proper hand washing technique. ★ ★ ★
<input type="checkbox"/> Improved ongoing training and monitoring of competencies necessary for evidence implementation	Please use this space to add any additional information about the facilitator selected as it relates to the setting you are working in. ★ ★ ★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evidence that guideline strategies are effective	Educate staff on evidence for handwashing. ★ ★ ★
<input type="checkbox"/> Strong leadership/supervision	Please use this space to add any additional information about the facilitator selected as it relates to the setting you are working in. ★ ★ ★
<input type="checkbox"/> Incentives (praise, bonuses)	Please use this space to add any additional information about the facilitator selected as it relates to the setting you are working in. ★ ★ ★

Step 5: Organizing Barriers & Facilitators: Health Systems Level

Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Kit

Health System Level (Barriers)



Barriers	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of equipment and supplies especially in small/rural centres	Lack of easy access to fresh water, soap, hand sanitizer
<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of medications especially in small/rural centres	Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting
<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of integration/collaboration of health care resources	Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting
<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of ability to smoothly transfer patients/or coordinate care across health systems level	Please use this space to add any additional information about the barrier selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inadequate funding of health care	Materials needed for hand washing not adequately funded
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of mechanism to collect high-quality data from patients and facilities	Lack of mechanism to audit hand washing and track
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of ability to document and monitor implementation	Lack of mechanism to audit hand washing and track

Step 5: Organizing Barriers & Facilitators: Health Systems Level



Health System Level (Facilitators)

Facilitators	Description
Material and Financial Resources	
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial commitment to training (stipends, opportunities for refresher training)	<p>★ ★ ★</p> <p>Please use this space to add any additional information about the facilitator selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> Pay unpaid volunteer health workers (i.e. midwives)	<p>★ ★ ★</p> <p>Please use this space to add any additional information about the facilitator selected as it relates to the setting you are working in.</p>
Communication/Information Sharing	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improved monitoring and evaluation, such as use of delivery books	<p>★ ★ ★</p> <p>Monitor and share hand washing audit and hospital guideline</p>

Results of Barriers & Facilitators Assessment

Barriers & Facilitators for this example have been assessed at the Patient/Community Level, the Health Provider and the Health Systems level. The results of this assessment are listed in the table with specific references to the handwashing example.

Barriers & Facilitators (with Rankings)	
Patient/Community Level	
Barriers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Lack of money to buy soap (xxx) -Lack of knowledge of correct way to wash hands (xxx) -Limited access to clean water, soap. (xxx)
Health Provider Level	
Barriers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Staff not trained in handwashing skills (xx) -Lack of awareness around proper hand washing technique (xxx) -Hand washing practices not being monitored or audited (xx)
Facilitators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Early training in proper hand washing techniques (***) -Educate staff on evidence for hand washing (**)
Health Systems Level	
Barriers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Lack of easy access to fresh water (xxx) -Materials needed for hand washing not adequately funded (xxx) -Lack of mechanism to audit hand washing (xx) -Lack of mechanism to collect data on hand washing (xx) -Lack of feedback to hospital on link between hand washing and hospital acquired infection (xx)
Facilitators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Monitor and share hand washing auditing system (**)

The next step is to organize these selections considering which ones will have the biggest impact on the implementation of a handwashing policy and/or guideline.

Step 6: Matching Barriers & Facilitators to Strategies

After selected Barriers & Facilitators are prioritized, the strategies table at the end of the toolkit can be used to select possible interventions to address them.

The screenshot displays the 'Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Kit' interface. At the top, there is a purple header with the title 'Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Kit' and a help icon. Below the header, there is a table with three rows of barriers and facilitators. Each row has a checkbox, a description, a star rating, and a text box for additional information. The first row has a star rating of three stars. The second row has a star rating of three stars. The third row has a star rating of three stars. Below the table, there is an 'Additional' section with a plus icon and the text 'Add additional facilitators not included above, but important to consider in your context.' At the bottom left, there is a 'PREVIOUS (HEALTH PROVIDER)' button. At the bottom right, there is a 'NEXT (STRATEGIES)' button, which is highlighted with a red box. A callout box points to the 'NEXT (STRATEGIES)' button with the text 'Click NEXT STRATEGIES to access a list of possible interventions.'

List of potential strategies to address identified Barriers & Facilitators

Barriers & Facilitators Assessment Kit



The list of potential strategies to address identified Barriers and Facilitators should be reviewed and discussed to select the strategies best suited to address those identified, keeping in mind the feasibility, sustainability, and acceptability of the potential strategies.

Types of Barriers and Facilitators	Patient/Community Level	Provider Level	Health Systems Level
Knowledge, Skills and Training	<p>Patient/community education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational tools (e.g. posters, patient handouts, community plays) Educational games Expert patients Mass Media 	<p>Education and Skills based training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Meetings and materials Outreach visits Ongoing training Audit and feedback Simulation Modelling/shadowing Mentorship <p>Mass Media</p>	<p>Change curriculum</p> <p>Create or change licensing or accreditation requirements</p> <p>Train the trainer strategies</p> <p>Recruit, designate, and train for leadership</p> <p>Supportive Supervision</p> <p>Mass Media</p> <p>Policy briefs</p>
Habits, Memory, Decision Processes	<p>Reminders strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reminder tools SMS reminders 	<p>Reminder Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posters Pocket cards Computer-based decision supports 	<p>Recruit, designate, and train for leadership</p> <p>Incentives</p>
Policies, Laws		Mandate change	<p>Change laws (liability, other)</p> <p>Mandate change</p> <p>Revise professional roles</p> <p>Clear policies (professional roles, task shifting, etc.)</p>
Resources (Staff, Equipment, Finances and Medication)	<p>Develop a community emergency fund</p> <p>Financial incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> lower fees for evidence-based treatment conditional cash transfers 	<p>Adapt knowledge and tailor implementation to context</p> <p>Task shifting</p> <p>Collaboration</p>	<p>Access new/restructuring funding</p> <p>Free or reduced fees for evidence-based essential care</p>

Step 6: Matching Patient/Community Level Barriers & Facilitators to Strategies

Barriers & Facilitators (with Rankings)		Possible Implementation Strategies
Patient/Community Level		
Barriers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Lack of money to buy soap (xxx) -Lack of knowledge of correct way to wash hands (xxx) -Limited access to clean water, soap. (xxx) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop community fund Patient/community education strategies Advocacy or community fund

Step 6: Matching Health Provider Level Barriers & Facilitators to Strategies

Barriers & Facilitators (with Rankings)		Possible Implementation Strategies
Health Provider Level		
Barriers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Staff not trained in hand washing skills (xx) -Lack of awareness around proper hand washing technique (xxx) -Hand washing practices not being monitored or audited (xx) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate staff in proper hand washing technique Staff education, Reminder strategies to support proper technique Monitor hand washing compliance and hospital acquired infections rates
Facilitators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Early training in proper hand washing techniques (***) -Educate staff on evidence for hand washing (**) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include training in hand washing technique in health care provider curriculum Provide education session to introduce the guideline and outline evidence base for hand washing

Step 6: Matching Health System Level Barriers & Facilitators to Strategies

Barriers & Facilitators (with Rankings)		Possible Implementation Strategies
Health Systems Level		
Barriers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Lack of easy access to fresh water (xxx) -Materials needed for hand washing not adequately funded -Lack of mechanism to audit hand washing (xx) -Lack of mechanism to collect data on hand washing (xx) -Lack of feedback to hospital on link between hand washing and hospital acquired infection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocacy for infrastructure funding Advocacy for funding, review of local budget to ensure hygiene products considered/budgeted for Develop and implement monitoring system Develop and implement monitoring system Policy brief
Facilitators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Monitor and share hand washing auditing system (**) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mandate and monitor change

Additional Resources to Guide Selection of Implementation Strategies

Below are links to two resources that you may find helpful in selecting implementation strategies to address the Barriers & Facilitators identified in steps 1-5.

The **CFIR-ERIC implementation strategy mapping tool** (and associated articles) provides a list and short description of implementation strategies and is available at <https://cfirguide.org/choosing-strategies/>

The **SELECT tool** provides an approach to categorizing barriers and facilitators, identifying and prioritizing intervention functions and includes a list and definitions of potential implementation strategies to address identified barriers and facilitators in section 3, available at <https://knowledge translation.net/the-select-tool/>