



## How to access and use the guidelines

### *Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare (2019)*

1. Visit [MAGICapp](#)
2. From the guidelines list, click on '*Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare (2019)*' to view the guidelines.



Look for the NHMRC logo to indicate which guidelines we have authored.

Please allow time for the guidelines to load.

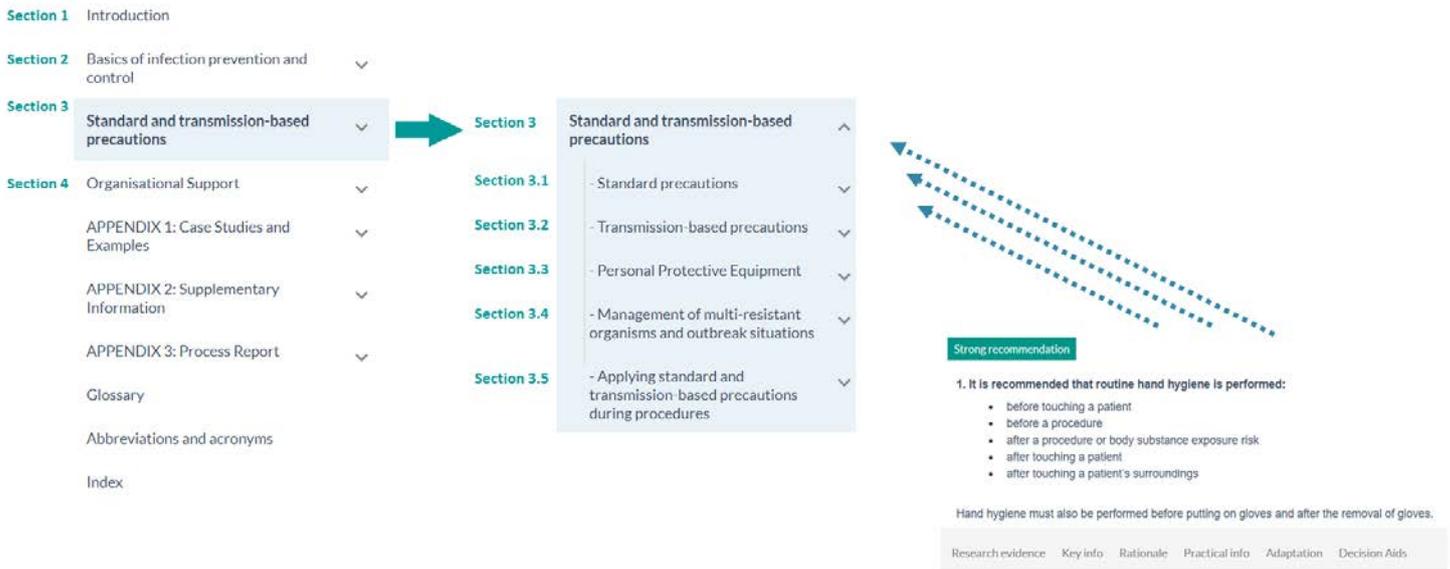
3. If you have any issues accessing the guidelines, please contact [icg@nhmrc.gov.au](mailto:icg@nhmrc.gov.au).

### Using MAGICapp

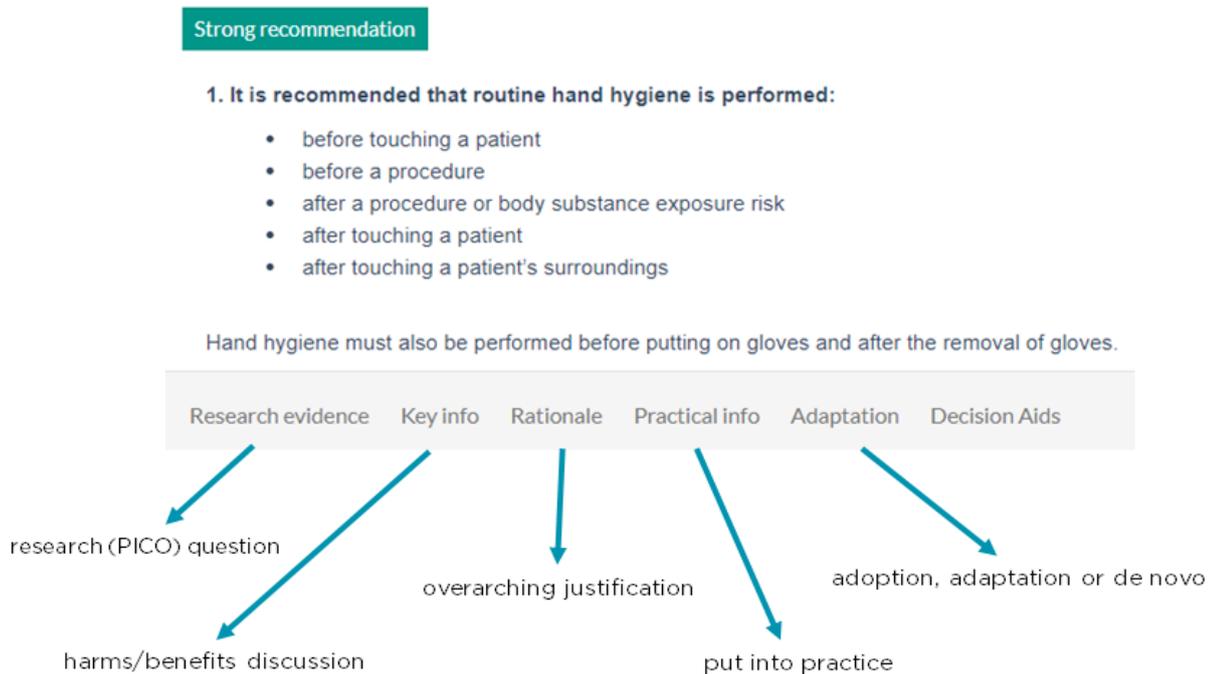
Once you have opened the guidelines, you will be able to view all the individual sections and recommendations using the side-bar navigation tool. The sections of the guidelines are based on core principles of infection prevention and control:

- **Section 2** presents background information that should be read by everyone working in healthcare (for example as orientation or as part of annual review) – this includes important basics of infection prevention and control, such as the main modes of transmission of infectious agents and the application of risk-management principles. *This section of the guidelines does not include recommendations, statutory requirements or practice statements.*
- **Section 3** is specific to the practice of healthcare workers and support staff, and outlines effective work practices that minimise the risk of transmission of infectious agents. *Most recommendations, statutory requirements or practice statements are within this section.*
- **Section 4** describes the responsibilities of management of healthcare facilities, including governance structures that support the implementation, monitoring and reporting of effective infection prevention and control work practices.
- **Appendices 1-3** provide additional information on putting the advice into practice, risk-management case studies and resources, and the guideline development process.

*Below is an example of the guideline structure*



*Below is an example recommendation from the guidelines*



## Recommendations, Practice Statements and Statutory Requirements

All recommendations are based on systematic reviews, with the GRADE (Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation) approach providing the evidence to decision framework which determined the structure and final wording of each recommendation. Each recommendation has an accompanying *strength* which reflects the quality of the evidence underpinning the recommendation and additional factors relating to the harms and benefits of the intervention:

- **Strong Recommendation:** Confident that the desirable effects of adhering to a recommendation outweigh the undesirable effects. Overall the recommendation is based on high quality evidence and is *strongly* recommended for implementation.
- **Weak/Conditional Recommendation:** Concludes that the desirable effects of adhering to a recommendation *probably* outweigh the undesirable effects. Overall the recommendation is based on supportive evidence and a strong theoretical rationale and is recommended for implementation.

The Guidelines also include Practice Statements and Statutory Requirements:

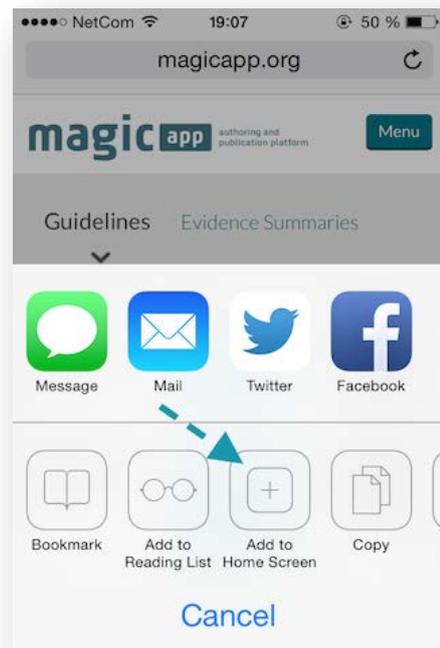
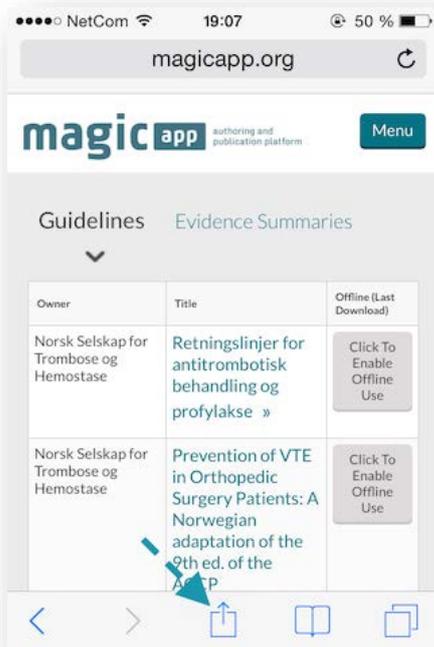
- **Practice Statement:** These are set for areas which are not covered by a systematic review of the evidence, but where the provision of clinical guidance is deemed important. The development of practice statements is primarily based on best practice as advised by expert consensus (in this instance, the consensus of the expert committee advising on the guidelines, or received through consultation and agreed to by the expert committee). It is aligned with the GRADE approach where available evidence and judgements are considered together however a *strength* is not assigned.
- **Statutory Requirement:** This advice reflects a practice statement or recommendation and further indicates where there is also a mandated requirement/s by the Commonwealth or the States/Territories. This must be considered when implementing the advice at the local level. It is important to note that statutory requirements vary across states and territories, and in their applicability to health service delivery sectors and settings.

An *updated* recommendation/statutory requirement/practice statement is one that has been adapted from the 2010 edition of the guidelines, and a *new* recommendation/statutory requirement/practice statement is one that has been developed for the 2019 update, based on the evidence from [systematic reviews](#), [literature reviews](#) or the consensus advice of experts.

## Downloading the MAGIC application

A free application can be easily saved onto your phone or tablet and allows you to view the entire guideline (online and offline). These instructions are for Apple devices, but will be similar for all other smartphones and tablets.

1. To get the application, go to [MAGICapp](http://MAGICapp), open the *Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare* (2019) and:
2. Click the 'extend' button at the bottom of your screen
3. Click the 'Add to Home Screen' button



4. Change the name of the link (if you would like), and then click 'Add.'
5. You will now have the MAGICapp mobile icon on your home screen that will take you straight to the Guidelines

