

University of Tennessee Health Science Center
Research Safety Affairs Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)
COVID-19 SOP06 – Handwashing Effective 4/24/2020

Handwashing

- Purpose:** To describe the proper procedure for handwashing.
- Scope:** This procedure represents the globally recognized standard practice for effective hand hygiene.
- Applicability:** To be practiced upon entering and prior to exiting buildings, after contact with frequently touched surfaces, after removing gloves, prior to handling food, and on other occasions when appropriate to decontaminate hands.

Procedure:

1. Wet hands with warm water.
2. Apply soap.
3. Wash hands for at least 20 seconds by rubbing your hands together, making sure to wash:
 - Palm and back of each hand
 - Between fingers
 - Under nails
 - Thumbs
4. Rinse well.
5. Dry hands well with paper towel.
6. Turn off water using paper towel.