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.