



**AMA**  
**TASMANIA**

## **MEDIA RELEASE – 12th November 2009**

### **HAND WASHING ESSENTIAL**

Acting President of the Tasmanian Branch of the Australian Medical Association (AMA) Dr. Michael Aizen welcomed the Tasmanian Healthcare Associated Infection Surveillance Report released by the Tasmanian Government yesterday.

Dr. Aizen said today the report announced by the Minister the Hon. Lara Giddings regarding healthcare associated infections (HAIs) is a timely reminder for all health care workers about the need to hand wash and we welcome the study and hope the information is disseminated widely.

Although, as stated by the Minister, rates were comparable to those seen in Western Australia, which is at a similar stage of implementing the hand hygiene campaign the AMA sees implementing all the recommendations from the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care as essential.

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END