Hospital Epidemiology and Infection Control
Guidelines for Hand Sanitizer Dispenser Locations

I. Fire Marshal Requirements

1. See electrical guidelines for alcohol hand rub placement:
   http://cleanhands/docs/Resources/Gel_Dispenser_Location.pdf
   (will be edited to reflect statement below)

Current dispensers contain 750 ml of alcohol product. Fifty (50) dispensers can be installed per smoke compartment, in addition to any installations within patient rooms or rooms that can be closed off from the egress corridor. Any Bactistat soap that may be installed at sinks open to the egress corridor should be included in this 50 dispenser limit.

II. Other Installation Requirements

1. All dispensers must be mounted with plastic "backplates" to minimize wall damage and enable dispenser replacement.

2. Only the new, thin dispensers are ADA compliant (less than 4" deep from the wall) to ensure clearance in the egress corridors. Other ADA height requirements may apply.

3. Dispensers of alcohol-based gel, foam and/or handwashing products cannot be mounted closer than 48" to each other

HEIC Recommendations

1. Locate alcohol hand rub product as close to door entry (inside patient room and outside patient room) as feasible given fire codes limits. Ideally placement is similar throughout institution so activating the dispenser becomes automatic action upon entering or leaving patient environment.

2. Never place alcohol hand rub dispensers behind doors, equipment or curtains or under counter tops. There should be no obstruction to the HCW accessing the dispenser.

3. Where there are no doors (e.g., PACU, infusion), place alcohol hand rub dispensers on the wall across from the patient care bays; DO NOT place them under the work stations.

4. Position soap dispenser over the sink so that dripping hands will drip into the sink.

5. Place towels near sink-same reason (dripped water and soap cause slip hazards).

6. Avoid placing alcohol sanitizer at sinks.

7. If possible, avoid placing two dispensers with different products (e.g. alcohol foam and lotion) right next to each other to avoid confusion.