Methods The study was carried out in Federal Medical Center, in South East Nigeria. Questionnaire and checklist was used to assess hand washing practice among 240 care providers and hand washing facilities in clinics and wards.

Result The health workers surveyed included nurses (54.0%), interns (19.0%), resident doctors (12.7%) and medical officers (9.5%). Majority of them (96.8%) knew the importance of hand-washing in the prevention of hospital-acquired infections. More than 50% had good knowledge of hand hygiene. About 54% of them will always wash their hands between direct contact with patients, and 68% after an invasive procedure, 92% when hands are visibly soiled, 67% after removal of gloves and 77% after personal body functions. Most common barriers to hand hygiene practice included, unavailability of water (61.9%) and alcohol-based agent (69.8%). About 14% of them did not wash their hands when an opportunity to do so presented. Among those that washed their hands the mean duration of hand washing was 39.6±24.4 s. Facility assessment showed that all the wards and clinics had designated place for hand washing. Only one clinic had alcohol cleaning agent and running water, 50% soap, 83.3% liquid detergent, 75% re-usable towel and 91.7% water storage container.

Conclusion The study supports earlier findings that hand hygiene practice in developing countries is relatively low and lack of supplies are barriers to its practice.

Introduction Occupational health and psychological comfort at work is important part of occupational safety promotion and reflects quality of life of employees. The aim of the study is to perform qualitative risk assessment of accidents and to study psychological status of employees in military industry in Northwest Russia.

Methods A cross-sectional questionnaire-based study was conducted in one of the military enterprises in the city of Arkhangelsk in 2010 in a random sample of employees (n=351) who reported on lifestyle, work experience and psychological comfort at work. Occupational hazards were analysed by criteria for risk assessment of accidents at working place (Tampere, 1994). Proportions were analysed by χ² tests.

Result Most of the responders were males (70.1%, n=232) aged 29.6 years on average. There were no differences by gender in psychological comfort at work. Altogether, 71.0% responders considered their working place as dangerous (p=0.76). Only 16.9% of the responders estimated psychological comfort at the high level. Most of them (59.9%) had good knowledge of hand hygiene. However, only 48% of the employees always wash their hands between direct contact with patients, and 64% after an invasive procedure. About 14% of them did not wash their hands when an opportunity to do so presented. Among those that washed their hands the mean duration of hand washing was 39.6±24.4 s. Facility assessment showed that all the wards and clinics had designated place for hand washing. Only one clinic had alcohol cleaning agent and running water, 50% soap, 83.3% liquid detergent, 75% re-usable towel and 91.7% water storage container.

Conclusion The study supports earlier findings that hand hygiene practice in developing countries is relatively low and lack of supplies are barriers to its practice.