

# Extending the Theory of Planned Behavior to Evaluate Multiple Infection Prevention Practices



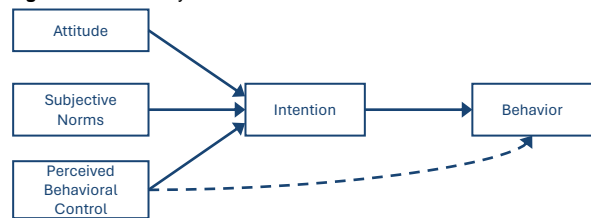
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## Background

- Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) practices play a crucial role in helping to prevent the spread of pathogens.<sup>1</sup>
- Hand hygiene is one of the most important IPC practices, with interventions commonly targeting adherence rates.<sup>2</sup>
- These interventions are increasingly rooted in behavior change theories, such as the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB).<sup>3,4</sup>
- The TPB has been used to target health behaviors, such as hand hygiene, by examining the relationships between the constructs portrayed in Figure 1.<sup>3,5</sup>
- While the TPB has been used to target hand hygiene behaviors, its use for evaluating adherence to other IPC practices is unknown.

Figure 1. The Theory of Planned Behavior



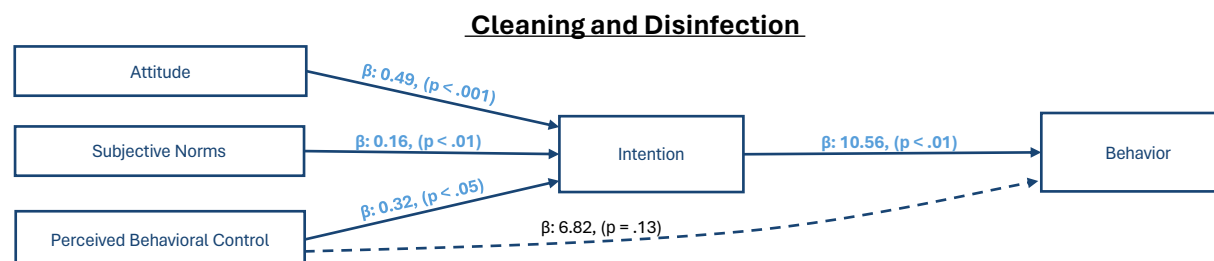
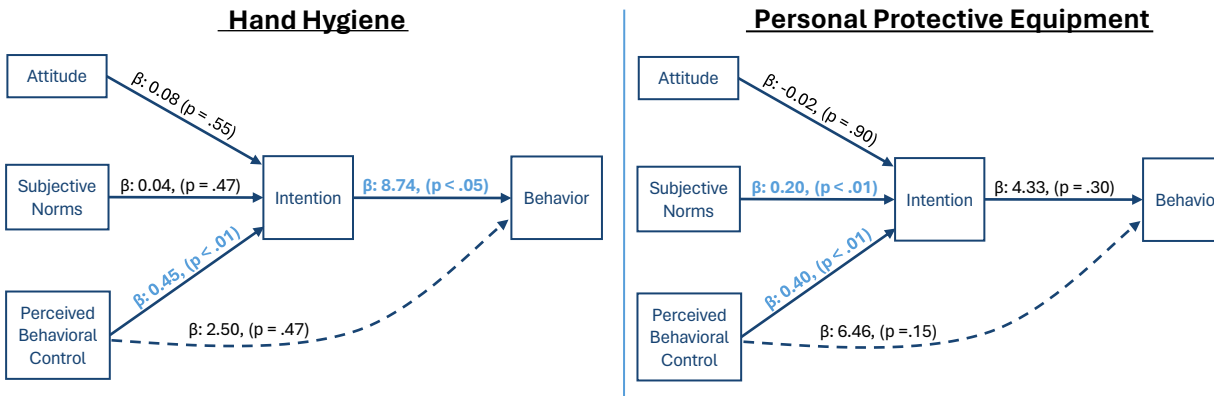
## Objectives

- Understand how the TPB can be used to promote IPC practices.
- Summarize the relationships between adherence to IPC practices and the TPB constructs.
- Differentiate the different intention predictors associated with the IPC practices evaluated.

## Study Design

- Registered Nurses (n=58) from an academic hospital in Atlanta, GA were recruited to complete three questionnaires assessing TPB constructs
- Each questionnaire assessed the IPC practices of (1) Hand Hygiene, (2) Personal Protective Equipment, and (3) Cleaning and Disinfection
- Linear regressions were used for each IPC practice to predict intention from attitude, subjective norms, and perceived behavioral control, and adherence from intention and perceived behavioral control<sup>6</sup>

## Results



## Conclusions

- Attitudes predicted intention for cleaning and disinfection
- Subjective norms predicted intention for personal protective equipment & cleaning and disinfection
- Perceived behavioral control predicted intention across all three IPC practices
- Intention predicted behavior for hand hygiene & cleaning and disinfection
- **The TPB can be used to understand IPC adherence beyond hand hygiene**
- Future research initiatives should consider the use of TPB as a theoretical basis for future interventions aimed at preventing the spread of pathogens

## References

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