Background Patient safety and HAI prevention and control should be a pillar of the professional level of competency starting from the first approach to health care organizations (undergraduate level). It should be based also on active involvement of the students. The 10th anniversary of the adoption of Clean Care is Safer Care project in Italy provided the opportunity to the Universities members of the GISIO-SItI Study Group on Health Acquired Infections (HAI) to try new ways to encourage students’ creativity.

Aim To actively involve students in Nursing, Medical Degree, Other HealthCare Professionals in a creative contest on hand hygiene in order to increase their awareness both of this topic and more in general of HAI.

Methods The Universities members of the GISIO network promoted at local level a contest after previously defining aim, methods and framework for evaluating the results. Students were invited to prepare by May 5th, 2016 products such as videos, posters, presentations, leaflets, screensavers. The best works will represent their University in a national contest to be held on November 18th.

Results 105 projects were presented for evaluation involving more than 600 students from 9 Italian Universities including 38 from an Albanian University partner of the Italian University of Rome Tor Vergata. A local committee judged according to a common framework on the following items: scientific accuracy, creativity, products’ technical quality, usefulness for campaigning. 5 videos, 2 manifestos, 1 presentation, 1 poster, 1 leaflet won at local level. A national committee will be in charge to apply the same criteria to the national contest.

Conclusion. Given the encouraging achievements, in terms of students’ skills improvement, the steering group is considering whether to extend the participation in the next future.

References
http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/EN_PSP_GPSC1_5May_2016/en/