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# **The Role of the Environment in Disease Transmission: Will Use of “No Touch” Technologies Reduce HAIs**

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Safety, UNC Health Care, Chapel Hill, NC (1979-2017)**

# DISCLOSURES

2020

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- Consultations/honoraria
  - PDI
- Grants
  - CDC

# The Role of the Environment in Disease Transmission: Will “No Touch” Room Decontamination Technologies Reduce HAIs

## Lecture Objectives

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- Role of the environment
- “No touch” room decontamination technologies
  - UV/HP
- New continuous room decontamination technologies
  - Continuously active disinfectants (or persistent disinfectant that provides continuous disinfection rates)

# The Role of the Environment in Disease Transmission: Will “No Touch” Room Decontamination Technologies Reduce HAIs

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# Environmental Contamination Leads to HAIs

Weber, Kanamori, Rutala. Curr Op Infect Dis 2016;29:424-431



- Evidence environment contributes
- Role-MRSA, VRE, *C. difficile*
- Surfaces are contaminated-~25%
- EIP survive days, weeks, months
- Contact with surfaces results in hand contamination
- Disinfection reduces contamination
- Disinfection (daily) reduces HAIs
- Rooms not adequately cleaned

# Admission to Room Previously Occupied by Patient C/I with Epidemiologically Important Pathogen



- Results in the newly admitted patient having an increased risk of acquiring that previous patient's pathogen by 39-353%
- For example, increased risk for *C. difficile* is 235% (11.0% vs 4.6%)
- Exposure to contaminated rooms confers a 5-6 fold increase in odds of infection, hospitals must adopt proven methods for reducing environmental contamination (Cohen et al. ICHE. 2018;39:541-546)

# Association between HAI Exposure to Previous Bed Occupants with the Same Pathogen

Cohen et al. ICHE 2019;39:541

- Quantify the association between having a prior bed occupant or roommate with HAI and subsequent infection
- 761,426 inpatients discharged from 2006-2012 eligible
- 10,289 HAIs were identified
- Odds of cases exposed to a prior bed occupant with the same organism were **5.83 times** that of controls and the odds of cases exposed to a roommate with the same organism were **4.82 times**
- I/C roommates and **prior occupants do pose a risk, which may warrant enhanced terminal and intermittent cleaning measures**



# Acquisition of EIP on Hands of Healthcare Providers after Contact with Contaminated Environmental Sites and Transfer to Other Patients





# Acquisition of EIP on Hands of Patient after Contact with Contaminated Environmental Sites and Transfers EIP to Eyes/Nose/Mouth



# Relationship Between Microbial Burden and HAIs

Rutala WA et al. ICHE 2018;38:1118-1121; Salgado CD, et al. ICHE 2013;34:479-86

Table 2. Relationship between microbial reduction of epidemiologically-important pathogens (EIP) and colonization/infection in a patient subsequently admitted to a room of a patient colonized/infected with an EIP by decontamination method.

	Standard Method		Enhanced method	
	Quat	Quat/UV	Bleach	Bleach/UV
EIP (mean CFU per room) <sup>a</sup>	60.8	3.4	11.7	6.3
Reduction (%)		94	81	90
Colonization/Infection (rate) <sup>a</sup>	2.3	1.5	1.9	2.2
Reduction (%)		35	17	4

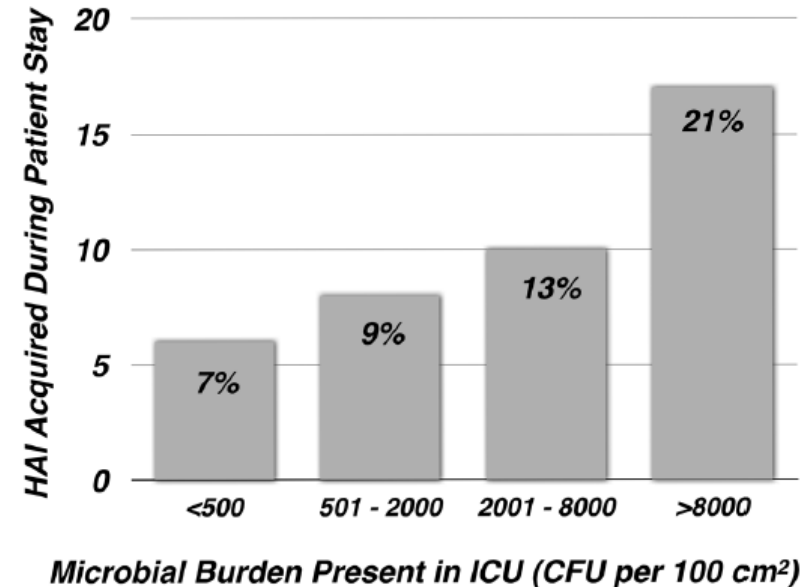


FIGURE 2. Quartile distribution of healthcare-acquired infections (HAIs) stratified by microbial burden measured in the intensive care unit (ICU) room during the patient's stay. There was a significant association between burden and HAI risk ( $P = .038$ ), with 89% of HAIs occurring among patients cared for in a room with a burden of more than 500 colony-forming units (CFUs)/100 cm<sup>2</sup>.

# MICROBIAL BURDEN ON ROOM SURFACES AS A FUNCTION OF FREQUENCY OF TOUCHING

Huslage K, Rutala WA, Weber DJ. ICHE

Surface	Prior to Cleaning/Disinfection Mean CFU/RODAC (95% CI)	Post Cleaning/Disinfection (mean) Mean CFU/RODAC (95% CI)
High	71.9 (46.5-97.3)	9.6
Medium	44.2 (28.1-60.2)	9.3
Low	56.7 (34.2-79.2)	5.7

- The level of microbial contamination of room surfaces is similar regardless of how often they are touched both before and after cleaning
- Therefore, all surfaces that are touched must be cleaned and disinfected

# Disinfection of Noncritical Surfaces Bundle

NL Havill AJIC 2013;41:S26-30; Rutala, Weber AJIC 2019;47:A96-A105

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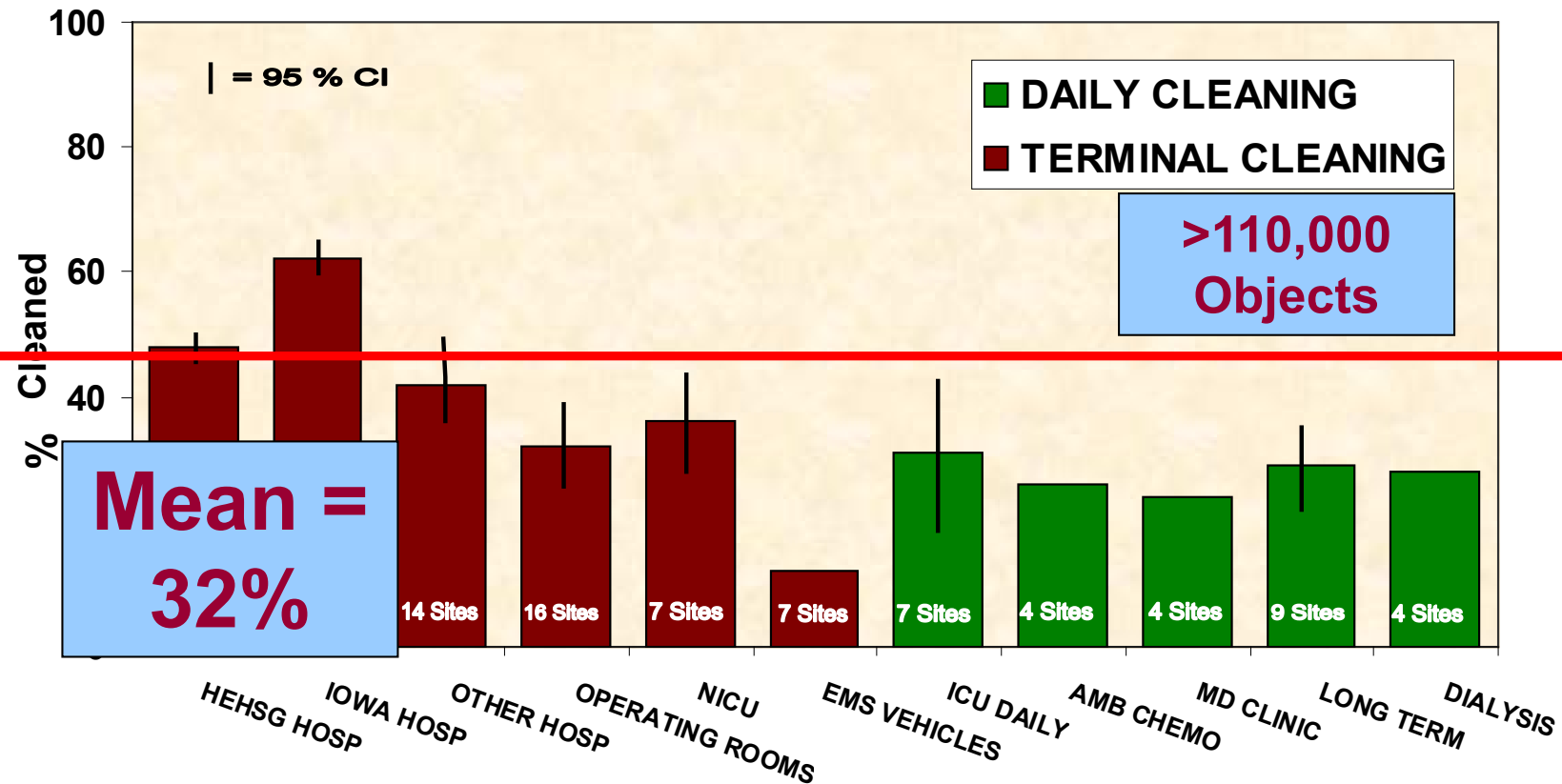
- Develop **policies** and procedures
- Select cleaning and disinfecting **products**
- **Educate staff**-environmental services and nursing
- Monitor **compliance** (thoroughness of cleaning, product use) and feedback
- **Implement “no touch”** room decontamination technology and monitor compliance

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# **Why consider “no touch” room decontamination technology**

# Thoroughness of Environmental Cleaning

Carling et al. ECCMID, Milan, Italy, May 2011



# Admission to Room Previously Occupied by Patient C/I with Epidemiologically Important Pathogen



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# Disinfection of Noncritical Surfaces Bundle

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- Develop **policies** and procedures
- Select cleaning and disinfecting **products**
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# **Effective Surface Decontamination**

Product and Practice = Perfection

# LOW-LEVEL DISINFECTION FOR NONCRITICAL EQUIPMENT AND SURFACES

Rutala, Weber. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2014;35:855-865; Rutala, Weber. AJIC 2019;47:A3-A9

Exposure time $\geq$ 1 min	
Germicide	Use Concentration
Ethyl or isopropyl alcohol	70-90%
Chlorine	100ppm (1:500 dilution)
Phenolic	UD
Iodophor	UD
Quaternary ammonium (QUAT)	UD
QUAT with alcohol	RTU
Improved hydrogen peroxide (HP)	0.5%, 1.4%
PA with HP, 4% HP, chlorine ( <i>C. difficile</i> )	UD

UD=Manufacturer's recommended use dilution; others in development/testing-electrolyzed water; polymeric guanidine; cold-air atmospheric pressure plasma (Boyce Antimicrob Res IC 2016. 5:10)

# Thoroughly clean/disinfect at least daily



# MONITORING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CLEANING

Cooper et al. AJIC 2007;35:338

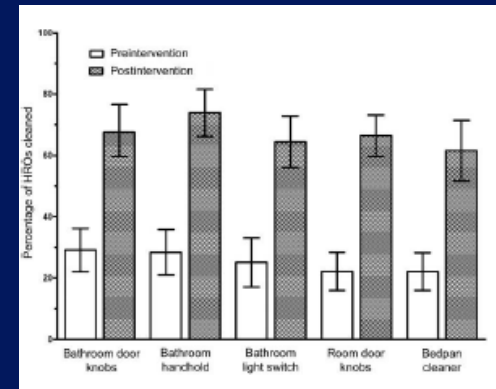
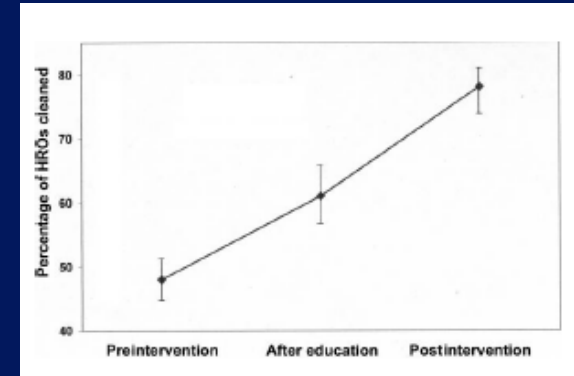
- Visual assessment-not a reliable indicator of surface cleanliness
- **ATP bioluminescence**-measures organic debris (each unit has own reading scale, <250-500 RLU)
- Microbiological methods-<2.5 CFUs/cm<sup>2</sup>-pass; can be costly and pathogen specific
- **Fluorescent marker-transparent, easily cleaned, environmentally stable marking solution that fluoresces when exposed to an ultraviolet light** (applied by IP unbeknown to ES, after ES cleaning, markings are reassessed)

# TERMINAL ROOM CLEANING: DEMONSTRATION OF IMPROVED CLEANING

Carling PC, et al. ICHE 2008;29:1035-41

- Evaluated cleaning before and after an intervention to improve cleaning
- 36 US acute care hospitals
- Assessed cleaning using a fluorescent dye
- Interventions
  - Increased education of environmental service workers
  - Feedback to environmental service workers

†Regularly change “dotted” items to prevent targeting objects



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**These interventions (effective surface disinfection, thoroughness indicators) not enough to achieve consistent and high rates of cleaning/disinfection**

No Touch

(supplements but do not replace surface cleaning/disinfection)



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# **Touch (Wiping) vs No-Touch (Mechanical)**

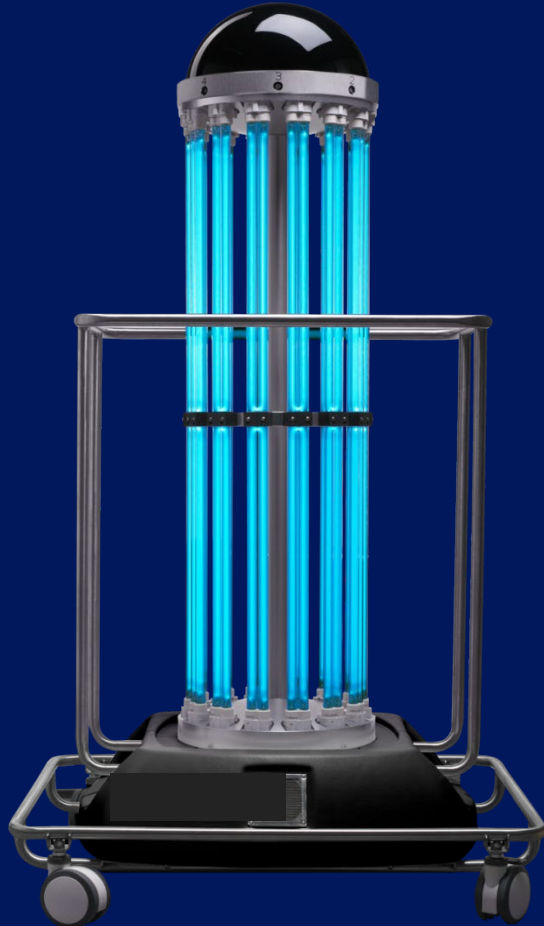
No Touch

(supplements but do not replace surface  
cleaning/disinfection)

# **“No Touch” Approaches To Room Decontamination**

**(UV/VHP~20 microbicidal studies, 12 HAI reduction studies; will not discuss technology with limited data)**

**Weber, Kanamori, Rutala. Curr Op Infect Dis 2016;29:424-431; Weber, Rutala et al. AJIC; 2016:44: e77-e84; Anderson et al. Lancet 2017;389:805-14; Anderson et al. Lancet Infect Dis 2018;June 2018.**



# UV Room Decontamination

Rutala, Gergen, Weber, ICHE. 2010:31:1025-1029

- Fully automated, self calibrates, activated by hand-held remote
- Room ventilation does not need to be modified
- Uses UV-C (254 nm range) to decontaminate surfaces
- Measures UV reflected from walls, ceilings, floors or other treated areas and calculates the operation total dosing/time to deliver the programmed lethal dose for pathogens.
- UV sensors determines and targets highly-shadowed areas to deliver measured dose of UV energy
- After UV dose delivered ( $36,000\mu\text{Ws}/\text{cm}^2$  for spore,  $12,000\mu\text{Ws}/\text{cm}^2$  for bacteria), will power-down and audibly notify the operator
- Reduces colony counts of pathogens by >99.9% within 20 minutes







# Effectiveness of UV Room Decontamination

Rutala WA, Gergen MF, Weber DJ. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol 2010;31:1025-9

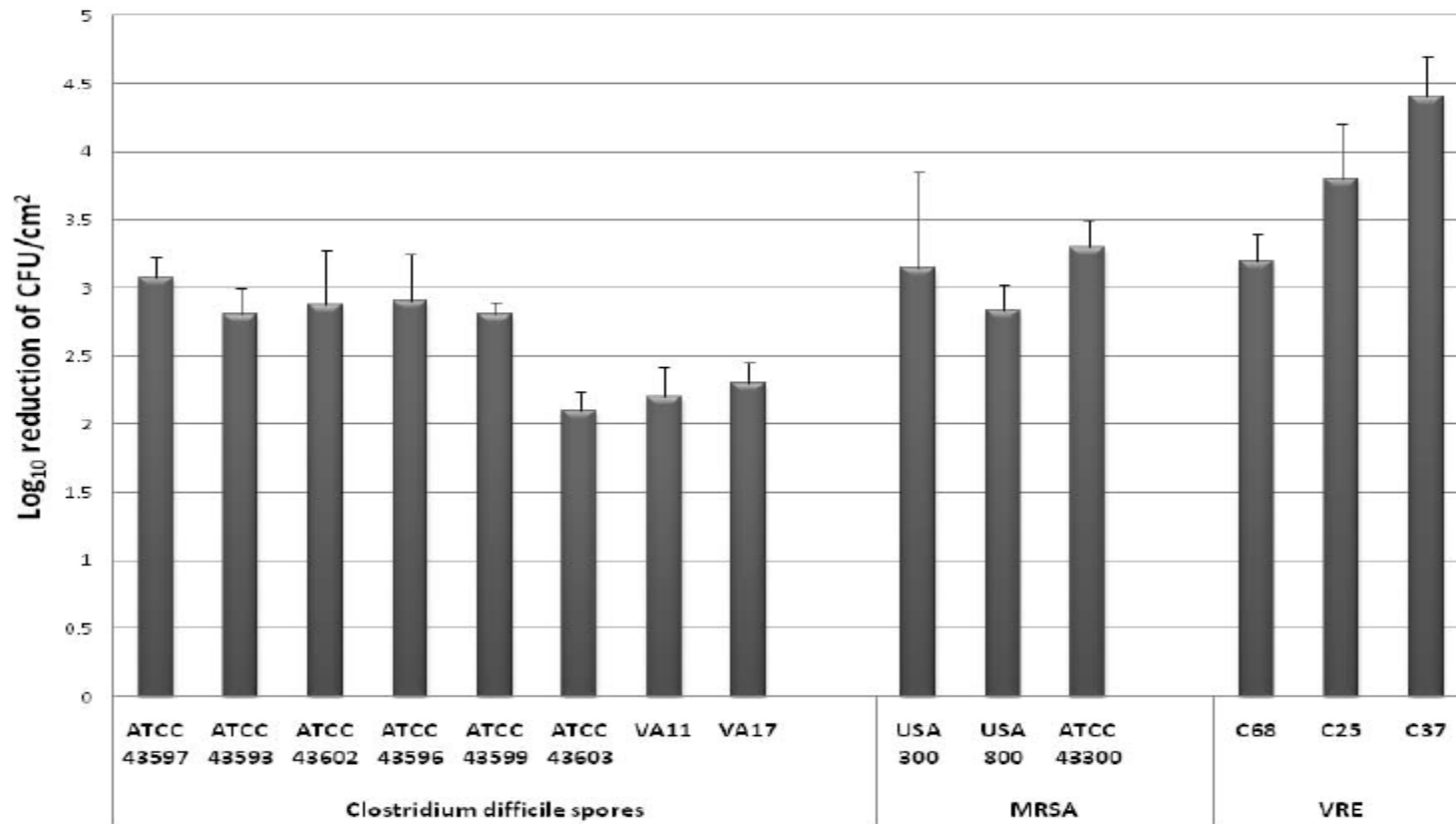
TABLE 1. UV-C Decontamination of Formica Surfaces in Patient Rooms Experimentally Contaminated with Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), Vancomycin-Resistant *Enterococcus* (VRE), Multidrug-Resistant (MDR) *Acinetobacter baumannii*, and *Clostridium difficile* Spores

		UV-C line of sight						
		Total		Direct		Indirect		
Organism	Inoculum	No. of samples	Decontamination, log <sub>10</sub> reduction, mean (95% CI)	No. of samples	Decontamination, log <sub>10</sub> reduction, mean (95% CI)	No. of samples	Decontamination, log <sub>10</sub> reduction, mean (95% CI)	<i>P</i>
MRSA	4.88 log <sub>10</sub>	50	3.94 (2.54–5.34)	10	4.31 (3.13–5.50)	40	3.85 (2.44–5.25)	.06
VRE	4.40 log <sub>10</sub>	47	3.46 (2.16–4.81)	15	3.90 (2.99–4.81)	32	3.25 (1.97–4.62)	.003
MDR <i>A. baumannii</i>	4.64 log <sub>10</sub>	47	3.88 (2.59–5.16)	10	4.21 (3.27–5.15)	37	3.79 (2.47–5.10)	.07
<i>C. difficile</i> spores	4.12 log <sub>10</sub>	45	2.79 (1.20–4.37)	10	4.04 (3.71–4.37)	35	2.43 (1.46–3.40)	<.001



# EFFECTIVENESS OF UV ROOM DECONTAMINATION

Nerandzic et al. BMC Infect Dis 2010;8:197



**Figure 2** Mean reduction ( $\log_{10}$  colony-forming units [CFU]/cm<sup>2</sup>) in recovery of multiple strains of *Clostridium difficile*, methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), and vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus* (VRE) from laboratory bench top surfaces after the use of the Tru-D device. For each pathogen, the inoculum applied to the bench top was adjusted such that  $10^3$  to  $10^5$  CFU were recovered from the positive control specimens. The Tru-D device was operated at a reflected dose of 22,000  $\mu$ Ws/cm<sup>2</sup> for ~45 minutes.

# EFFECTIVENESS OF UV DEVICES ON REDUCING MDROs ON CARRIERS

Weber DJ, Rutala WA et al. Am J Infect Control 2016;44:e77-e84

Author, year	UV system	MDROs	Time (min)	Energy ( $\mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$ )	Log <sub>10</sub> reduction direct (indirect)
Rutala, 2010 <sup>27</sup>	UV-C, Tru-D	MRSA, VRE, A	~15	12,000	4.31 (3.85), 3.90 (3.25), 4.21 (3.79)
Rutala, 2010 <sup>27</sup>	UV-C, Tru-D	Cd	~50	36,000	4.04 (2.43)
Boyce, 2011 <sup>28</sup>	UV-C, Tru-D	Cd	67.8 (1 stage)	22,000	1.7-2.9
Havill, 2012 <sup>29</sup>	UV-C, Tru-D	Cd	73 (mean)	22,000	2.2
Rutala, 2013 <sup>30</sup>	UV-C, Tru-D	MRSA	25	12,000	4.71 (4.27)
Rutala, 2013 <sup>30</sup>	UV-C, Tru-D	Cd	43	22,000	3.41 (2.01)
Mahida, 2013 <sup>31</sup>	UV-C, Tru-D	OR: MRSA, VRE	49	12,000	$\geq 4.0$ ( $\geq 4.0$ ), 3.5 (2.4)
Mahida, 2013 <sup>31</sup>	UV-C, Tru-D	Single patient room: VRE, A, As	23-93	12,000	$\geq 4.0$ ( $> 2.3$ ), $\geq 4.0$ (1.7), $\geq 4.0$ (2.0)
Rutala, 2014 <sup>32</sup>	UV-C, Optimum	MRSA	5	NS	4.10 (2.74)
Rutala, 2014 <sup>32</sup>	UV-C, Optimum	Cd	10	NS	3.35 (1.80)
Nerandzic, 2015 <sup>33</sup>	UV, PX, Xenon	Cd, MRSA, VRE	10 at 4 ft (2 cycles)	NS	0.55, 1.85, 0.6

A, *Acinetobacter* spp; As, *Aspergillus*; Cd, *Clostridium difficile*; MDRO, multidrug-resistant organism; MRSA, methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*; NS, not stated; OR, operating room; PX, pulsed xenon; UV, ultraviolet light; VRE, vancomycin-resistant enterococci.

# EFFECTIVENESS OF UV DEVICES ON REDUCING MDROs IN CONTAMINATED PATIENT ROOMS

Weber DJ, Rutala WA, et al. Am J Infect Control 2016;44:e77-e84

Author, year	UV system	MDROs	Time (min); energy ( $\mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$ )	Positive sites (before and after) (%)	Log <sub>10</sub> reduction
Rutala, 2010 <sup>27</sup>	UV-C, Tru-D	MRSA	~15; 12,000	20.2, 0.5	1.30
Nerandzic, 2010 <sup>34</sup>	UV-C, Tru-D	MRSA, VRE	20; 12,000	10.7, 0.8; 2.7, 0.38	0.68; 2.52
Nerandzic, 2010 <sup>34</sup>	UV-C, Tru-D	Cd	45; 22,000	3.4, 0.38	1.39;
Stibich, 2011 <sup>35</sup>	UV, PX, Xenex	VRE	12; NS	8.2, 0	1.36
Anderson, 2013 <sup>36</sup>	UV-C, Tru-D	All, VRE, A	25; 12,000	NS; 11, 1; 13, 3	1.35; 1.68; 1.71
Anderson, 2013 <sup>36</sup>	UV-C, Tru-D	Cd	45; 22,000	10, 5	1.16
Jinadatha, 2015 <sup>37</sup>	UV, PX, Xenex	MRSA	15 (3 cycles of 5 min), NS	70, 8	2.0
Nerandzic, 2015 <sup>33</sup>	UV, PX, Xenex	MRSA, VRE, Cd	10 (2 cycles of 5 min); NS	10, 2; 4, 0.9; 19, 8	0.90, 1.08, NS
Jinadatha, 2015 <sup>37</sup>	UV-PX, Xenex	MRSA	15 (3 cycles of 5 min); NS	NS, NS	0.63

A, *Acinetobacter* spp; All, all target organisms; Cd, *Clostridium difficile*; MDRO, multidrug-resistant organism; MRSA, methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*; NS, not stated; PX, pulsed xenon; UV, ultraviolet light; VRE, vancomycin-resistant enterococci.

# Clinical Trials Using UV for Terminal Room Decontamination to Reduce HAIs

Weber, Rutala et al. Am J Infect Control. 2016;44:e77-e84.

Author, Year	Design	Pathogens	Reduction in HAIs
Levin, 2013	Before-After, Pulsed Xenon	CDI	Yes
Hass, 2014	Before-After, Pulsed Xenon	CDI, MRSA, VRE, MDRO-GNR	Yes
Miller, 2015	Before-After, Pulsed Xenon	CDI	Yes
Nagaraja, 2015	Before-After, Pulsed Xenon	CDI	Yes (p=0.06)
Pegues, 2015	Before-After, Optimum	CDI	Yes
Anderson, 2017	Randomized-controlled trial, Tru-D	MRSA, VRE, CDI	Yes
Vianna, 2016	Before-After, Pulsed Xenon	CDI, MRSA, VRE	Yes

# Enhanced terminal room disinfection and acquisition and infection caused by multidrug-resistant organisms and *Clostridium difficile* (the Benefits of Enhanced Terminal Room Disinfection study): a cluster-randomised, multicentre, crossover study

Deverick J Anderson, Luke F Chen, David J Weber, Rebekah W Moehring, Sarah S Lewis, Patricia F Triplett, Michael Blocker, Paul Becherer, J Conrad Schwab, Lauren P Knelson, Yuliya Lokhnygina, William A Rutala, Hajime Kanamori, Maria F Gergen, Daniel J Sexton; for the CDC Prevention Epicenters Program

**Anderson et al. Lancet 2017;289:805**

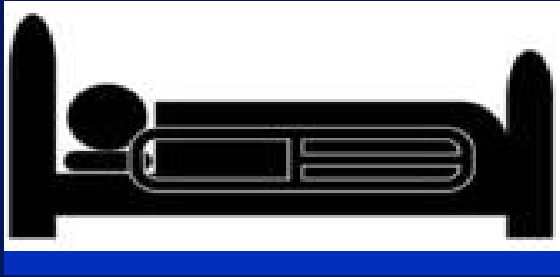
# 2x2 Factorial Design

	No UV Light	UV Light
Quat*	A	B
Bleach	C	D

**\*NOTE: Bleach always used in rooms of patients with suspected or confirmed *C. difficile***

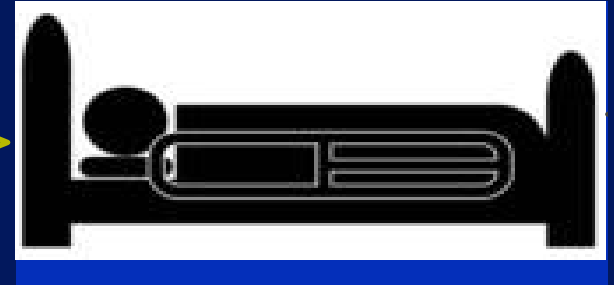
# Key Definitions – Patient-Level Analyses

Patient in  
“Seed Room”



Terminal  
Clean

“Exposed Patient”



Documented infection or  
colonization with  
**MRSA**  
**VRE**  
*C. difficile*  
*MDR-Acinetobacter*

In room  $\geq 24$  hours

Exposure days = Time  
spent in “seed room”

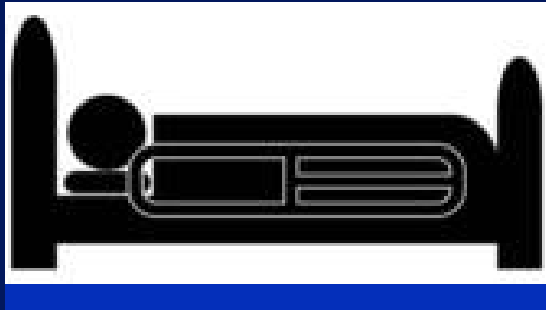


# Key Definitions – Inclusion Criteria

“Exposed Patient”



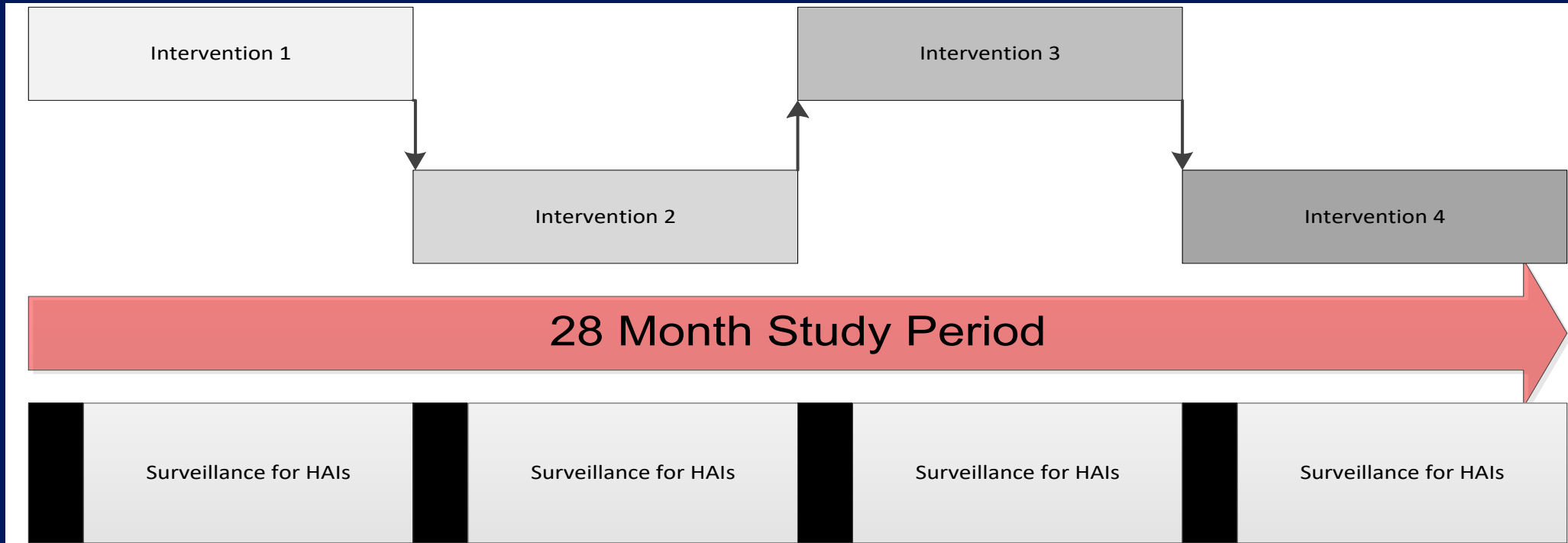
Potential “Incident Case”



In room  $\geq$  24 hours

1. Same organism as the patient in the “seed room” *AND*
- 2a. Positive culture while in room  
*OR*
- 2b. Positive culture after stay in room
  - 90 days (MRSA, VRE, MDRAB)
  - 28 days (*C. difficile*)

# DUKE/UNC BETR-D STUDY: DESIGN



# Enhanced Disinfection Leading to Reduction of Microbial Contamination and a Decrease in Patient Col/Infection

Anderson et al. Lancet 2017;289:805; Rutala et al. ICHE 2018;38:1118-1121

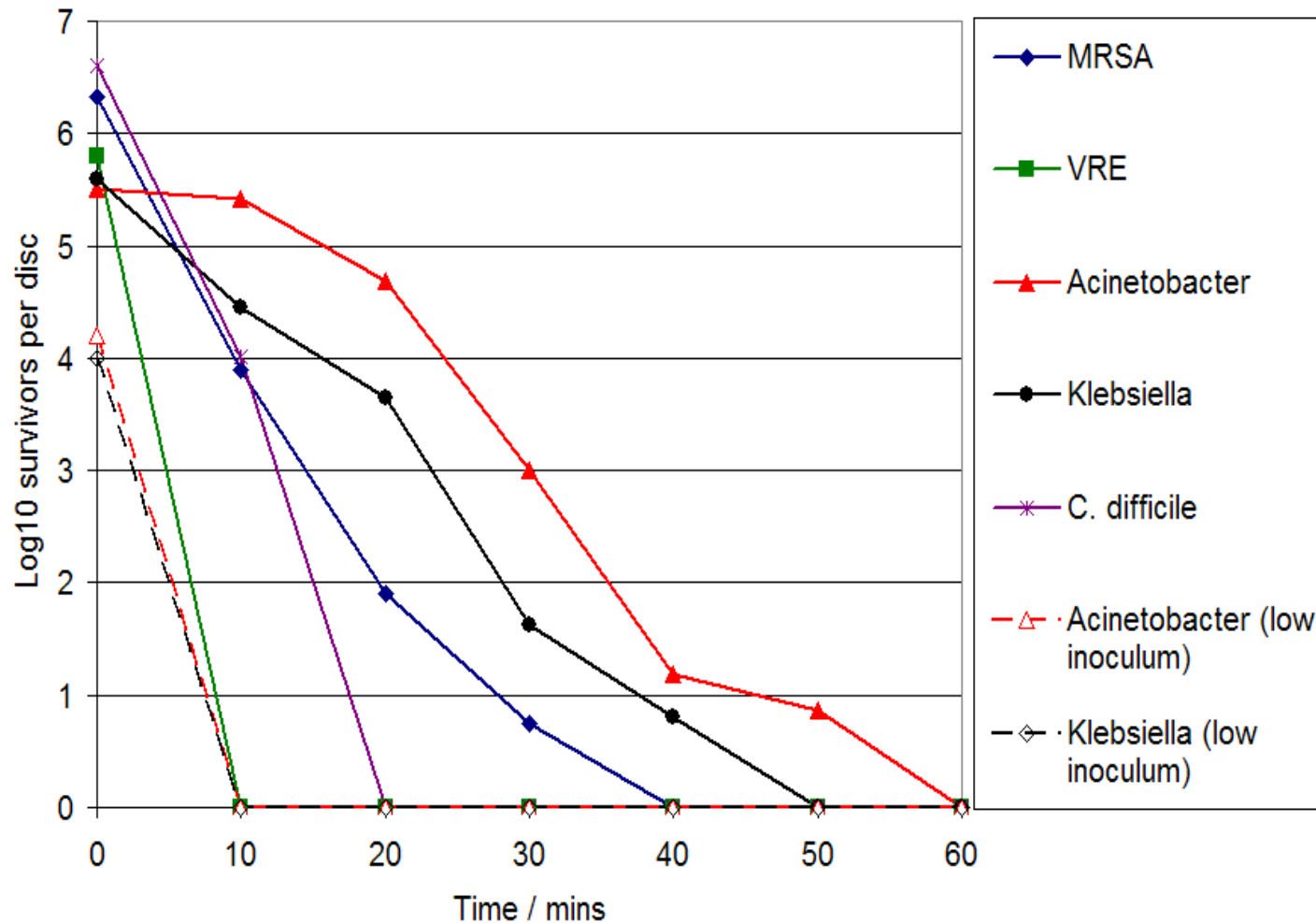
	Standard Method		Enhanced method	
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EIP (mean CFU per room) <sup>a</sup>	60.8	3.4	11.7	6.3
Reduction (%)		94	81	90
Colonization/Infection (rate) <sup>a</sup>	2.3	1.5	1.9	2.2
Reduction (%)		35	17	4

Comparing the best strategy with the worst strategy (i.e., Quat vs Quat/UV) revealed that a reduction of 94% in EIP (60.8 vs 3.4) led to a 35% decrease in colonization/infection (2.3% vs 1.5%). Data demonstrated that a decrease in room contamination was associated with a decrease in patient colonization/infection.

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# Hydrogen Peroxide Vapor/Aerosol Decontamination

# HPV *in vitro* Efficacy



# HYDROGEN PEROXIDE FOR DECONTAMINATION OF THE HOSPITAL ENVIRONMENT

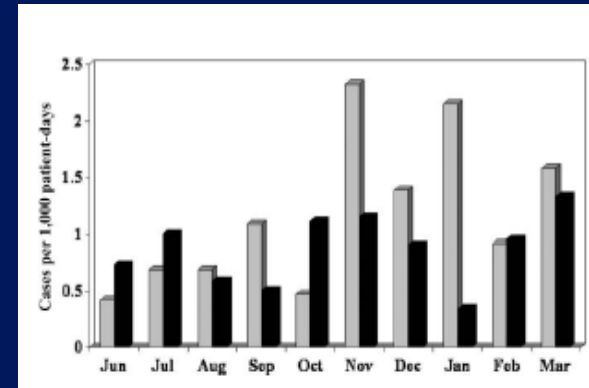
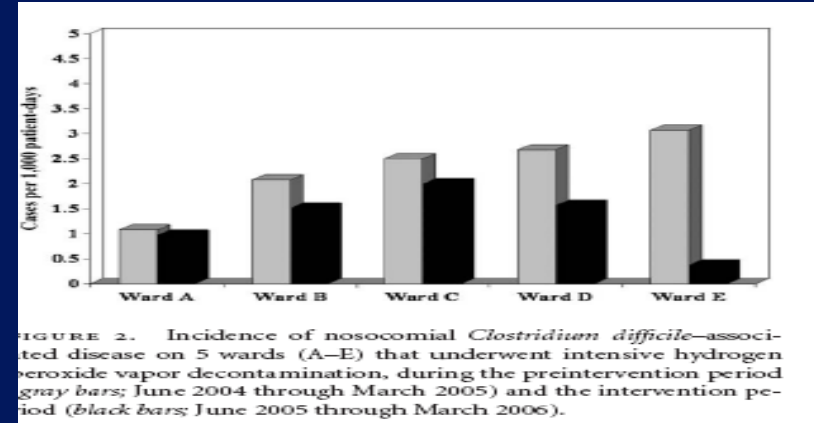
Falagas, et al. J Hosp Infect. 2011;78:171.

Author, Year	HP System	Pathogen	Before HP	After HP	% Reduction
French, 2004	VHP	MRSA	61/85-72%	1/85-1%	98
Bates, 2005	VHP	<i>Serratia</i>	2/42-5%	0/24-0%	100
Jeanes, 2005	VHP	MRSA	10/28-36%	0/50-0%	100
Hardy, 2007	VHP	MRSA	7/29-24%	0/29-0%	100
Dryden, 2007	VHP	MRSA	8/29-28%	1/29-3%	88
Otter, 2007	VHP	MRSA	18/30-60%	1/30-3%	95
Boyce, 2008	VHP	<i>C. difficile</i>	11/43-26%	0/37-0%	100
Bartels, 2008	HP dry mist	MRSA	4/14-29%	0/14-0%	100
Shapey, 2008	HP dry mist	<i>C. difficile</i>	48/203-24%	7/203-3%	88
Barbut, 2009	HP dry mist	<i>C. difficile</i>	34/180-19%	4/180-2%	88
Otter, 2010	VHP	GNR	10/21-48%	0/63-0%	100

# Room Decontamination With VHP

Boyce JM, et al. ICHE 2008;29:723-729

- Study design
  - Before and after study of VHP
- Outcome
  - *C. difficile* incidence
- Results
  - VHP decreased environmental contamination with *C. difficile* ( $p < 0.001$ ), rates on high incidence floors from 2.28 to 1.28 cases per 1,000 pt-days ( $p = 0.047$ ), and throughout the hospital from 1.36 to 0.84 cases per 1,000 pt days ( $p = 0.26$ )



# Clinical Trials Using HP for Terminal Room Disinfection to Reduce HAIs

Weber, Rutala et al. Am J Infect Control 2016;44:e77-e84

Author, Year	Design	Pathogen	Reduction in HAIs
Boyce, 2008	Before-After	CDI	Yes
Cooper, 2011	Before-After	CDI	Decrease cases (incidence not stated)
Passaretti, 2013	Prospective cohort	MRSA, VRE, CDI	Yes, in all MDROs
Manian, 2013	Before-After	CDI	Yes
Mitchell, 2014	Before-After	MRSA	Yes
Horn, 2015	Before-After	CDI, VRE, ESBL GNR	Yes



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**This technology should be used (capital equipment budget) for terminal room disinfection (e.g., after discharge of patients under Contact Precautions, during outbreaks).**

# UV ROOM DECONTAMINATION: ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES

Rutala WA, Weber DJ. Am J Infect Control 2013;41:S36

- Advantages

- Reliable biocidal activity against a wide range of pathogens
- Surfaces and equipment decontaminated
- Room decontamination is rapid (5-25 min) for vegetative bacteria (*C. difficile* spores 10-50m)
- HVAC system does not need to be disabled and room does not need to be sealed
- UV is residual free and does not give rise to health and safety concerns
- No consumable products so operating costs are low (key cost = acquisition)
- Studies show use of UV reduces HAIs

- Disadvantages

- Can only be done for terminal disinfection (i.e., not daily cleaning)
- All patients and staff must be removed from room
- Substantial capital equipment costs
- Does not remove dust and stains which are important to patients/visitors
- Sensitive use parameters (e.g., UV dose delivered)

# HP ROOM DECONTAMINATION: ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES

Rutala WA, Weber DJ. Am J Infect Control 2013;41:S36

- Advantages
  - Reliable biocidal activity against a wide range of pathogens
  - Surfaces and equipment decontaminated
  - Demonstrated to decrease disease incidence (e.g., *C. difficile*, VRE)
  - Residual free and does not give rise to health and safety concerns (aeration units convert HPV into oxygen and water)
  - Useful for disinfecting complex equipment and furniture
  - Does not require direct or indirect line of sight
- Disadvantages
  - Can only be done for terminal disinfection (i.e., not daily cleaning)
  - All patients and staff must be removed from room
  - Decontamination takes approximately 1.5-5 hours
  - HVAC system must be disabled and the room sealed with tape
  - Substantial capital equipment costs
  - Does not remove dust and stains which are important to patients/visitors
  - Sensitive use parameters (e.g., HP concentration)

# Selection of “No Touch” Room Decontamination Device

Weber, Rutala et al. Am J Infect Control. 2016;44:e77-e84.

- Since different “no touch” systems (e.g., UV and hydrogen peroxide) vary substantially, infection preventionists should review the peer-reviewed literature and choose only devices with demonstrated bactericidal capability as assessed by carrier tests and/or the ability to disinfect actual patient rooms
- Ideally, one would select a device that has demonstrated bactericidal capability and the ability to reduce HAIs

# New Technologies for Room/Surface Decontamination

## Assessment Parameters

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- Safe
- Microbicidal
- Reduction of HAIs
- Cost-effective

# Cost-Effectiveness of UVC

Rutala WA, Brewer A. Healthcare Facilities Today. January 20, 2020

- Cost savings-The following example illustrates how UVC can be a smart investment.
  - If UVC usage reduced HAIs for approximately 20% of patients (e.g., patients on Contact Precautions) by 10-30% as demonstrated in a randomized trial (Anderson et al, Lancet 2017) the number of infections prevented in a 900-bed hospital with an infection rate of ~4 per 1,000 patient days would be approximately 18-55 per year
  - If each HAI cost \$24,000 on average, the hospital would need to prevent only 23 HAIs in the first two years to cover the acquisition and operational costs of the UVC program for a 24-month period
  - If the hospital prevented 30% of infections per year (55 per year) for two years, the cost savings would be \$2,085,000

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**“No touch” technology should be used  
(capital equipment budget) for terminal  
room disinfection (e.g., after discharge of  
patients under Contact Precautions, during  
outbreaks).**

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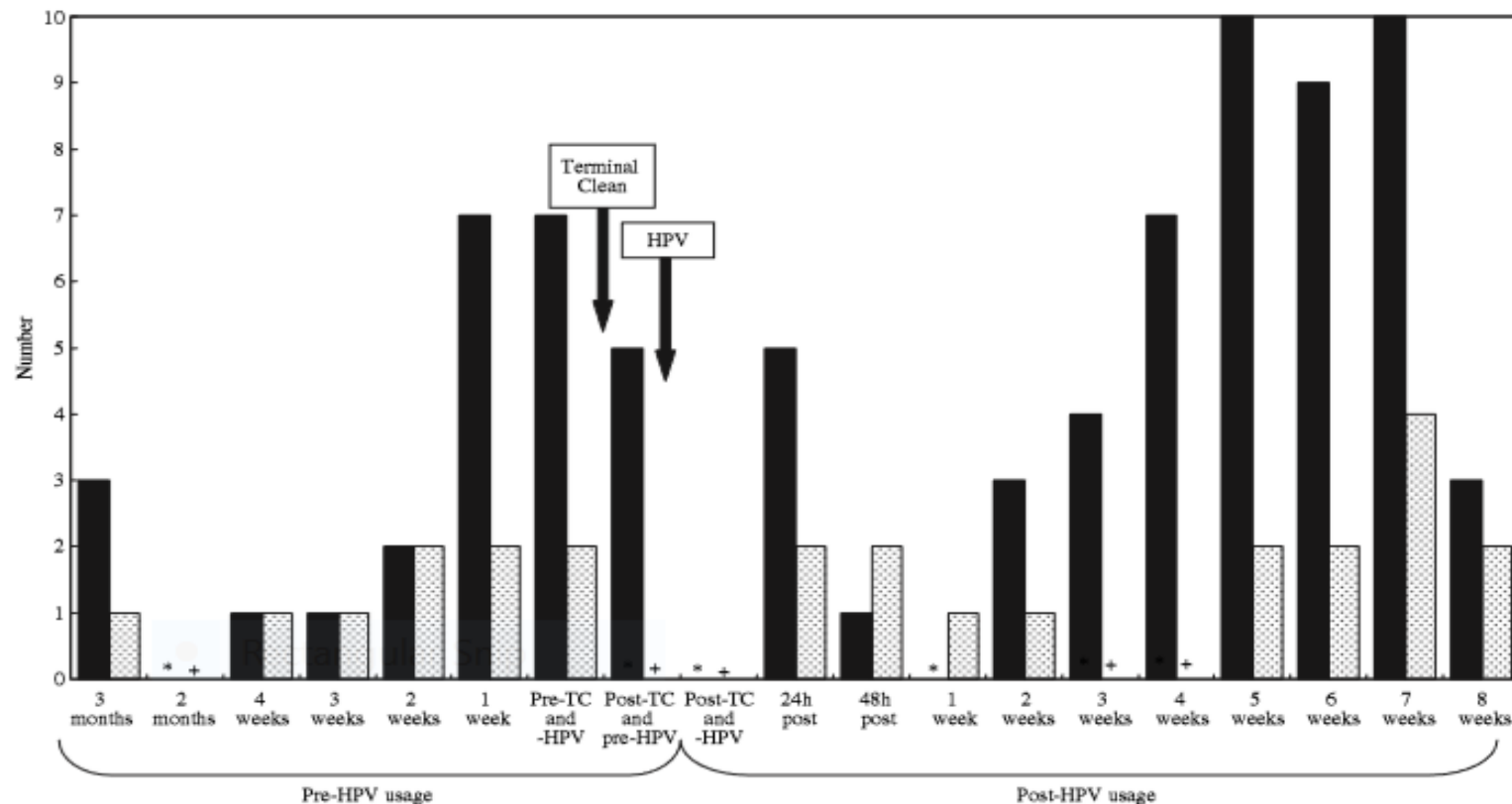
# Why do we need to consider continuous room decontamination technology?

To reduce microbial contamination  
(associated with suboptimal CD practices and  
recontamination)



# Recontamination with MRSA After Decontamination with HP Vapor

Hardy et al. J Hosp Infect 2007;66:360-368



**Figure 1** Number of environmental sites (■) contaminated with MRSA, and number of patients (▨) colonized with MRSA on intensive care units on each screen. \*MRSA environmental samples all negative; \*no patients colonized with MRSA. HPV, hydrogen peroxide vapour; TC, terminal clean.

# Continuous Room Decontamination Technologies for Disinfection of the Healthcare Environment

Weber, Rutala et al. AJIC. 2019;47:A72

- Visible light disinfection through LEDs
- Dry/dilute hydrogen peroxide
- Self-disinfecting surfaces (e.g., copper)
- Far UV 222 nm
- Bipolar ionization
- Multijet cold air plasma
- **Continuously active disinfectant** (CAD) or persistent disinfectant that provides continuous disinfection action
  - Allows continued disinfection (may eliminate the problem of recontamination)
  - Patients, staff and visitors can remain in the room

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Hygienically clean (not sterile)-free of  
pathogens in sufficient numbers to  
prevent human disease

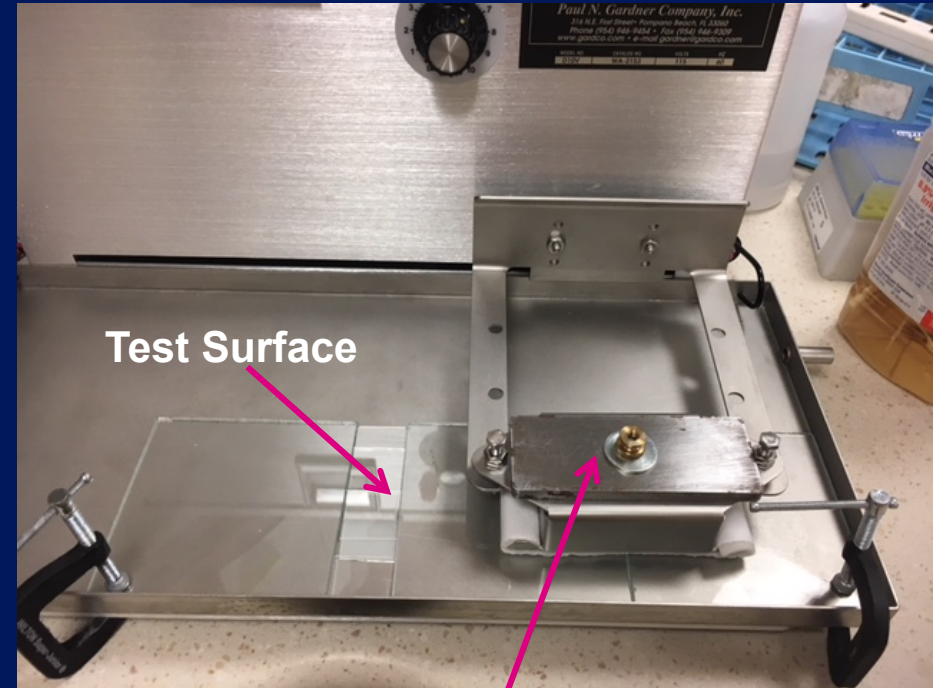
# SURFACE DISINFECTANTS: PERSISTENCE

Surface disinfectant	Persistence
Phenolic	No
Quaternary ammonium compound	Yes (undisturbed)
Alcohol	No
Hypochlorite	No
Hydrogen peroxide	No

# Evaluation of a Continuously Active Disinfectant

## “EPA Protocol for Residual Self-Sanitizing Activity of Dried Chemical Residuals on Hard, Non-Porous Surfaces”

- Test surface inoculated ( $10^5$ ), treated with test disinfectant, allowed to dry.
- Surface will undergo “wears” (abraded under alternating wet and dry conditions [24 passes, 12 cycles]) and 6 re-inoculations ( $10^3$ , 30min dry) over 24hr
- At the end of the study and at least 24 hours later, the ability of the test surface to kill microbes (99.9%) within 5 min is measured using the last inoculation ( $10^6$ )



Abrasion Boat

# Efficacy of a Continuously Active Surface Disinfectant

Rutala WA, Gergen M, Sickbert-Bennett E, Anderson D, Weber D. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2019. 40:1284-1286.

4-5 log<sub>10</sub> reduction in 5min over 24hr for most pathogens; ~99% reduction with *Klebsiella* and CRE *Enterobacter*.

Test Pathogen	Mean Log <sub>10</sub> Reduction , 95% CI n=4
<i>S.aureus</i> *	4.4 (3.9, 5.0)
<i>S.aureus</i> (formica)	4.1 (3.8, 4.4)
<i>S.aureus</i> (stainless steel)	5.5 (5.2, 5.9)
VRE	≥4.5
<i>E.coli</i>	4.8 (4.6, 5.0)
<i>Enterobacter sp.</i>	4.1 (3.5, 4.6)
<i>Candida auris</i>	≥5.0
<i>K pneumoniae</i>	1.5 (1.4, 1.6)
CRE <i>E.coli</i>	3.0 (2.6, 3.4)
CRE <i>Enterobacter</i>	2.0 (1.6, 2.4)
CRE <i>K pneumoniae</i>	2.1 (1.8, 2.4)

\*Test surface glass unless otherwise specified

# Comparison of CAD with Three Disinfectants Using EPA Method and *S. aureus*

Rutala WA, Gergen M, Sickbert-Bennett E, Anderson D, Weber D. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2019. 40:1284-1286.

Test Disinfectant	Mean Log <sub>10</sub> Reduction
Continuously Active Disinfectant (CAD)	4.4
Quat-Alcohol	0.9
Improved hydrogen peroxide	0.2
Chlorine	0.1

# Efficacy of a Continuously Active Disinfectant Against a Human Coronavirus, 229E, Evaluated after 48 hours

Rutala WA et al. Unpublished data, September 2020

A novel disinfectant studied using an EPA protocol (wears/re-inoculations) demonstrated continuous antiviral activity (i.e.,  $>4.5 \log_{10}$  reduction) in 1 minute after 48 hours for a human coronavirus, 229E

Carrier Treatment with Wears and Re-inoculations	Contact Time	Mean Viral Recovery Titer per Carrier ( $\log_{10}$ )	$\log_{10}$ Reduction
Control (sterile water, n=3)	1 minute	$6.00 \pm 0.25$	N.A.
Test disinfectant (n=3)	1 minute	$\leq 1.50 \pm 0.00$	<div>&gt;4.50</div>



# The Role of the Environment in Disease Transmission: Will “No Touch” Room Decontamination Technologies Reduce HAIs

## Lecture Objectives

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- Role of the environment
- “No touch” room decontamination technologies
  - UV/HP
- New continuous room decontamination technologies
  - Continuously active disinfectants (or persistent disinfectant that provides continuous disinfection rates)

# Will “No Touch” Room Decontamination Technologies Reduce HAIs? Yes

## Summary

- Disinfection of noncritical environmental surfaces/equipment is an essential component of infection prevention
- Disinfection should render surfaces and equipment free of pathogens in sufficient numbers to cause human disease
- Implement a method to improve the thoroughness of cleaning
- Goal of effective surface disinfection: Product + Practice = Perfection
- An enhanced method of room decontamination (“no touch”) is superior to a standard method
- “No touch” technology should be used at discharge for Contact Precaution patients
- Continuously active disinfectants may reduce or eliminate the problem of recontamination (e.g., 4-5  $\log_{10}$  reduction in 5m over 24h)

**THANK YOU!**  
[www.disinfectionandsterilization.org](http://www.disinfectionandsterilization.org)



# FACTORS AFFECTING UV ROOM DISINFECTION DEVICE EFFECTIVENESS

Cadnum JL, et al. ICHE 2016;37:555-560; Boyce JM, Donskey CJ. ICHE 2019;40:1030-1035

- Intensity of UV delivered (i.e., energy)
- Wavelength(s) of UV
- Duration of exposure
- Distance (energy delivered falls off as a square of distance)
- Orientation of the surface being disinfected to the UV source
  - For non-shadowed surfaces, direct line of sight to UV source
  - For shadowed surfaces, UV reflectivity of walls/surfaces
- Intrinsic susceptibility of microbes (e.g., spore formers such as *C. difficile* more difficult to inactivate than vegetative bacteria such as MRSA and VRE)
- Study variables: 1) microbial strain (there may be strain variability to UV); 2) spreading the inoculum over a greater surface area enhances killing; 3) organic load (e.g., 10% fetal calf serum) significantly decreases killing; 4) test surface, in general does not affect killing (e.g., Formica, glass, steel); 5) humidity

