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# **Best Practices in Disinfection of Noncritical Surfaces in the Healthcare Setting: A Bundle Approach**

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

# DISCLOSURES

2020-2021

- **Consultations**
  - PDI (Professional Disposable International)
- **Honoraria**
  - PDI

This presentation sponsored by Alkamedica

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

# Sources of Healthcare-Associated Pathogens

Weinstein RA. Am J Med 1991;91 (suppl 3B):179S

- Endogenous flora (SSI, UTI, CLABSI): 40-60%
- Exogenous: 20-40% (e.g., cross-infection via contaminated hands [staff, visitors])
- Other (environment): 20%
  - Medical devices
  - Contact with environmental surfaces (direct and indirect contact)

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# **Our Responsibility to the Future**

**Institute Practices that Prevent All Infectious Disease  
Transmission via Environment**

# 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 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)

# 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



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# **Best Practices in Disinfection of Noncritical Surfaces in the Healthcare Setting: A Bundle Approach**

A set of evidence-based practices, generally 3-5, that  
when performed collectively and reliably have been  
proven to improve patient outcomes

# Best Practices in Disinfection of Noncritical Surfaces in the Healthcare Setting: A Bundle Approach

NL Havill AJIC 2013;41:S26-30; Rutala, Weber. AJIC 2019

## A Bundle Approach to Surface Disinfection

- 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

# KEY PATHOGENS WHERE ENVIRONMENTAL SURFACES PLAY A ROLE IN TRANSMISSION

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- MRSA
- VRE
- *Acinetobacter* spp.
- *Clostridium difficile*
- Norovirus
- Rotavirus
- SARS

# ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION ENDEMIC AND EPIDEMIC MRSA

	Outbreak	Endemic				Site estimated mean§
	Rampling et al <sup>27*</sup>	Boyce et al <sup>48*</sup>	Sexton et al <sup>51†</sup>	Lemmen et al <sup>50*‡</sup>	French et al <sup>64*</sup>	
Floor	9%	50–55%	44–60%	24%	..	34.5%
Bed linen	..	38–54%	44%	34%	..	41%
Patient gown	..	40–53%	..	34%	..	40.5%
Overbed table	..	18–42%	64–67%	24%	..	40%
Blood pressure cuff	13%	25–33%	..	..	..	21%
Bed or siderails	5%	1–30%	44–60%	21%	43%	27%
Bathroom door handle	..	8–24%	..	12%¶	..	14%
Infusion pump button	13%	7–18%	..	30%	..	19%
Room door handle	11%	4–8%	..	23%	59%	21.5%
Furniture	11%	..	44–59%	19%	..	27%
Flat surfaces	7%	..	32–38%	..	..	21.5%
Sink taps or basin fitting	..	..	..	14%	33%	23.5%
Average quoted**	11%	27%	49%	25%	74%	37%

Dancer SJ et al. Lancet ID 2008;8(2):101-13

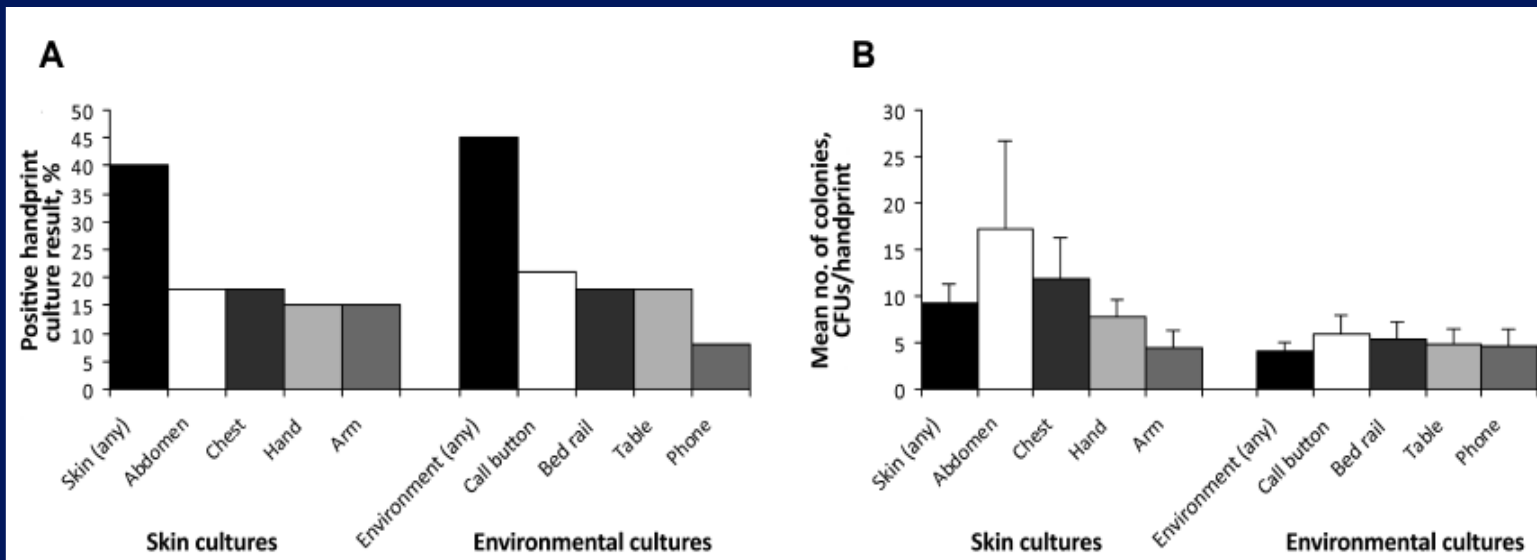
# ENVIRONMENTAL SURVIVAL OF KEY PATHOGENS ON HOSPITAL SURFACES

Pathogen	Survival Time
<i>S. aureus</i> (including MRSA)	7 days to >12 months
<i>Enterococcus</i> spp. (including VRE)	5 days to >46 months
<i>Acinetobacter</i> spp.	3 days to 11 months
<i>Clostridium difficile</i> (spores)	>5 months
Norovirus (and feline calicivirus)	8 hours to >2 weeks
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	6 hours to 16 months
<i>Klebsiella</i> spp.	2 hours to >30 months

Adapted from Hota B, et al. Clin Infect Dis 2004;39:1182-9 and  
Kramer A, et al. BMC Infectious Diseases 2006;6:130

## FREQUENCY OF ACQUISITION OF MRSA ON GLOVED HANDS AFTER CONTACT WITH SKIN AND ENVIRONMENTAL SITES

No significant difference on contamination rates of gloved hands after contact with skin or environmental surfaces (40% vs 45%;  $p=0.59$ )



Stiefel U, et al. ICHE 2011;32:185-187



ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

American Journal of Infection Control

journal homepage: [www.ajicjournal.org](http://www.ajicjournal.org)



## Major article

# Does improving surface cleaning and disinfection reduce health care-associated infections?

Curtis J. Donskey MD<sup>a,b,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Geriatric Research, Education, and Clinical Center, Cleveland Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Cleveland, OH

<sup>b</sup> Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, OH

**Key Words:**  
Environment  
Cleaning  
Transmission

Contaminated environmental surfaces provide an important potential source for transmission of health care-associated pathogens. In recent years, a variety of interventions have been shown to be effective in improving cleaning and disinfection of surfaces. This review examines the evidence that improving environmental disinfection can reduce health care-associated infections.

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Contaminated environmental surfaces provide an important potential source for transmission of many health care associated pathogens.<sup>1,6</sup> These include *Clostridium difficile*, methicillin resistant

infected with health care associated pathogens shed organisms onto their skin, clothing, bedding, and nearby environmental surfaces.<sup>12</sup> In addition to surfaces in rooms, portable equipment



# Environmental Disinfection Interventions

Donskey CJ. Am J Infect Control 2013;41:S12

- Cleaning product substitutions
- Improvements in the effectiveness of cleaning and disinfection practices
  - Education
  - Audit and feedback
  - Addition of housekeeping personnel or specialized cleaning staff
- Automated technologies
- Conclusion: Improvements in environmental disinfection may prevent transmission of pathogens and reduce HAIs

## ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION LEADS TO HAIs

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- There is increasing evidence to support the contribution of the environment to disease transmission
- This supports comprehensive disinfecting regimens (goal is not sterilization) to reduce the risk of acquiring a pathogen from the healthcare environment/equipment

# Disinfection of Noncritical Surfaces Bundle

NL Havill AJIC 2013;41:S26-30

- Develop policies and procedures
- Select cleaning and disinfecting products
- Educate staff-environmental services and nursing
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- Implement “no touch” room decontamination technology and monitor compliance

# Disinfection of Noncritical Surfaces Bundle

- Develop policies and procedures
  - Standardize C/D patient rooms and pieces of equipment throughout the hospital
  - All touchable hand contact surfaces wiped with disinfection daily, when spills occur and when the surfaces are visibly soiled.
  - All noncritical medical devices should be disinfected daily and when soiled
  - Clean and disinfectant sink and toilet
  - Damp mop floor with disinfectant-detergent
  - If disinfectant prepared on-site, document correct concentration
  - Address treatment time/contact time for wipes and liquid disinfectants (e.g., treatment time for wipes is the kill time and includes a wet time via wiping as well as the undisturbed time).

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# REVIEW THE “BEST” PRACTICES FOR CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

Cleaning and disinfecting is one-step with disinfectant-detergent. No pre-cleaning necessary unless spill or gross contamination. In many cases “best” practices not scientifically determined.

# Blood Pressure Cuff

## Non-Critical Patient Care Item



# Surface Disinfection

## Noncritical Patient Care

Rutala, Weber, HICPAC. CDC 2008. [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

- Disinfecting Noncritical Patient-Care Items
  - Process noncritical patient-care equipment with a **EPA-registered disinfectant** at the proper use dilution and a **contact time of at least 1 min**. *Category IB*
  - Ensure that the frequency for disinfecting noncritical patient-care surfaces be done minimally when **visibly soiled and on a regular basis** (such as after each patient use or once **daily** or once weekly). *Category IB*





# Surface Disinfection

## Environmental Surfaces

Rutala, Weber, HICPAC. CDC 2008. [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

- Disinfecting Environmental Surfaces in HCF
  - **Disinfect** (or clean) housekeeping surfaces (e.g., floors, tabletops) **on a regular basis** (e.g., **daily**, three times per week), **when spills occur, and when these surfaces are visibly soiled.**  
*Category IB*
  - Use disinfectant for housekeeping purposes where: uncertainty exists as to the nature of the soil on the surfaces (blood vs dirt); or where uncertainty exists regarding the presence of multi-drug resistant organisms on such surfaces. *Category II*

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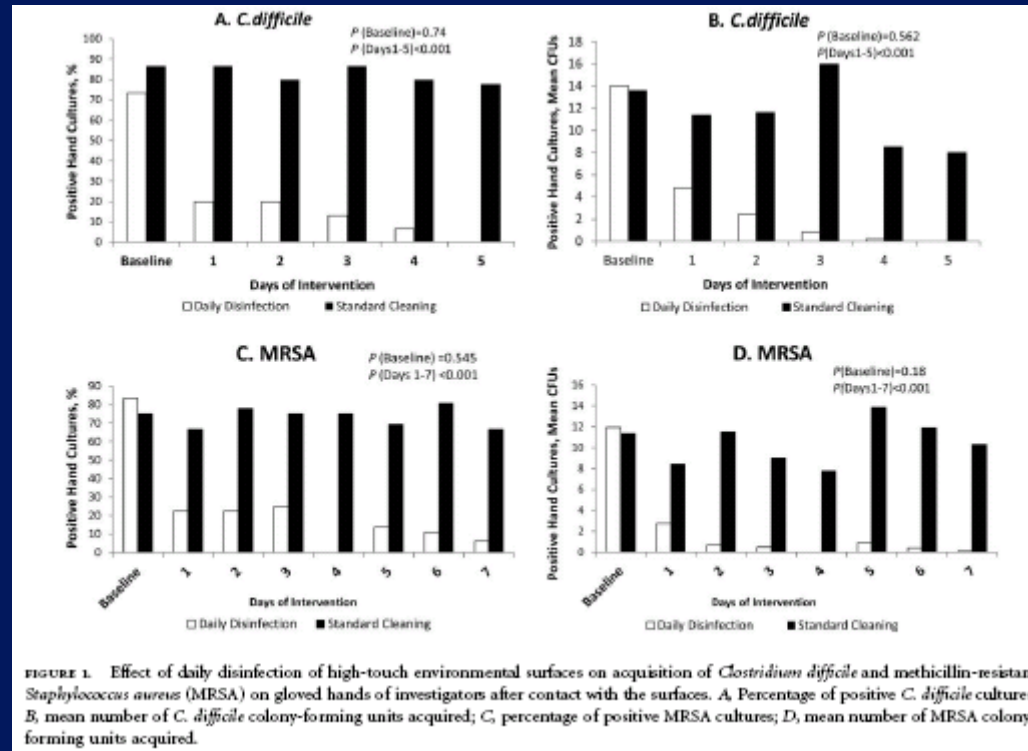
**It appears that not only is  
disinfectant use important but  
how often is important**

Daily disinfection vs clean when soiled

# Daily Disinfection of High-Touch Surfaces

Kundrapu et al. ICHE 2012;33:1039

Daily disinfection of high-touch surfaces (vs cleaned when soiled) with sporicidal disinfectant (PA) in rooms of patients with CDI and MRSA reduced acquisition of pathogens on hands after contact with surfaces and of hands caring for the patient. **Daily disinfection less hand contamination.**



# Use of a Daily Disinfectant Cleaner Instead of a Daily Cleaner Reduced HAI Rates

Alfa et al. AJIC 2015.43:141-146

- Method: Improved hydrogen peroxide disposable wipe was used once per day for all high-touch surfaces to replace cleaner
- Result: When cleaning compliance was  $\geq 80\%$ , there was a significant reduction in cases/10,000 patient days for MRSA, VRE and *C. difficile*
- Conclusion: Daily use of disinfectant applied to environmental surfaces with a 80% compliance was superior to a cleaner because it resulted in significantly reduced rates of HAIs caused by *C. difficile*, MRSA, VRE

# EVIDENCE THAT ALL TOUCHABLE ROOM SURFACES ARE EQUALLY CONTAMINATED

**TABLE 1.** Precleaning and Postcleaning Bacterial Load Measurements for High-, Medium-, and Low-Touch Surfaces

Surface (no. of samples)	Mean CFUs/RODAC (95% CI)	
	Precleaning	Postcleaning
High ( <i>n</i> = 40)	71.9 (46.5–97.3)	9.6 (3.8–15.4)
Medium ( <i>n</i> = 42)	44.2 (28.1–60.2)	9.3 (1.2–17.5)
Low ( <i>n</i> = 37)	56.7 (34.2–79.2)	5.7 (2.01–9.4)

NOTE. CFU, colony-forming unit; CI, confidence interval.

**Huslage K, Rutala W,  
Gergen M, Sickbert-  
Bennett S, Weber D  
ICHE 2013;34:211-2**

Number of culture sites and prevalence of contamination with nosocomial pathogens in intensive care units (N=523)

Ward	Culture sites <sup>a</sup>			
	HCWs' hands	Surfaces distant from patients	Surfaces close to patients	Prevalence of contamination
A	3/10 (30%)	0/22 (0%)	6/25 (24.0%)	9/57 (15.8%)
B	2/9 (22.2%)	4/19 (21.1%)	5/48 (10.4%)	11/76 (14.5%)
C	2/10 (20%)	2/26 (7.7%)	7/49 (14.3%)	11/85 (12.9%)
D	1/9 (11.1%)	2/24 (8.2%)	7/45 (15.6%)	10/78 (12.8%)
E	0/5 (0%)	4/22 (18.2%)	3/30 (10%)	7/57 (12.3%)
F	1/10 (10%)	0/11 (0%)	4/31 (12.9%)	5/52 (9.6%)
G	0/3 (0%)	2/14 (14.3%)	0/20 (0%)	2/37 (5.4%)
H	1/10 (10%)	0/16 (0%)	1/55 (1.8%)	2/81 (2.5%)
Total	10/66 (15.2%)	14/154 (9.1%)	33/303 (10.9%)	57/523 (10.9%)

HCW, healthcare worker.

<sup>a</sup> Number of contaminated samples/number of samples obtained.

**Willi I, Mayre A,  
Kreidl P, et al.  
JHI 2018;98:90-95**

# ALL “TOUCHABLE” (HAND CONTACT) SURFACES SHOULD BE WIPED WITH DISINFECTANT

“High touch” objects only recently defined (no significant differences in microbial contamination of different surfaces) and “high risk” objects not epidemiologically defined. Cleaning and disinfecting is one-step with disinfectant-detergent. No pre-cleaning necessary unless spill or gross contamination.

# Disinfection of Noncritical Surfaces Bundle

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# THE “BEST” PRACTICES FOR CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

Cleaning and disinfecting is one-step with disinfectant-detergent. No pre-cleaning necessary unless spill or gross contamination. In many cases “best” practices not scientifically determined.



# Science of Cleaning and Disinfection

Rutala, Weber, HICPAC. November 2008. [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

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- Cleaning-removes organisms/organic matter
- Disinfection-inactivates organisms

# Effectiveness of Different Methods of Surface Disinfection for MRSA

Rutala, Gergen, Weber. Unpublished data.

Technique (with cotton)	MRSA Log <sub>10</sub> Reduction (QUAT)
Saturated cloth	4.41
Spray (10s) and wipe	4.41
Spray, wipe, spray (1m), wipe	4.41
Spray	4.41
Spray, wipe, spray (until dry)	4.41
Disposable wipe with QUAT	4.55
Control: detergent	2.88

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# **Effective Surface Decontamination**

Product and Practice = Perfection

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# Effective Surface Decontamination

**Product** and Practice = Perfection

# PROPERTIES OF AN IDEAL DISINFECTANT

Rutala, Weber. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2014;35:855-865

- **Broad spectrum**-wide antimicrobial spectrum
- **Fast acting**-should produce a rapid kill
- **Remains Wet**-meet listed kill/contact times with a single application
- **Not affected by environmental factors**-active in the presence of organic matter
- **Nontoxic**-not irritating to user
- **Surface compatibility**-should not corrode instruments and metallic surfaces
- **Persistence**-should have sustained antimicrobial activity
- **Easy to use**
- Acceptable odor
- Economical-cost should not be prohibitively high
- Soluble (in water) and stable (in concentrate and use dilution)
- Cleaner (good cleaning properties) and nonflammable

# Environmental Disinfection Interventions

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- **Conclusion: Improvements in environmental disinfection may prevent transmission of pathogens and reduce HAIs**

# MOST PREVALENT PATHOGENS CAUSING HAI

Rutala, Weber. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2014;35:855-865; Weiner et al ICHE 2016;37:1288

## □ Most prevalent pathogens causing HAI (easy to kill)

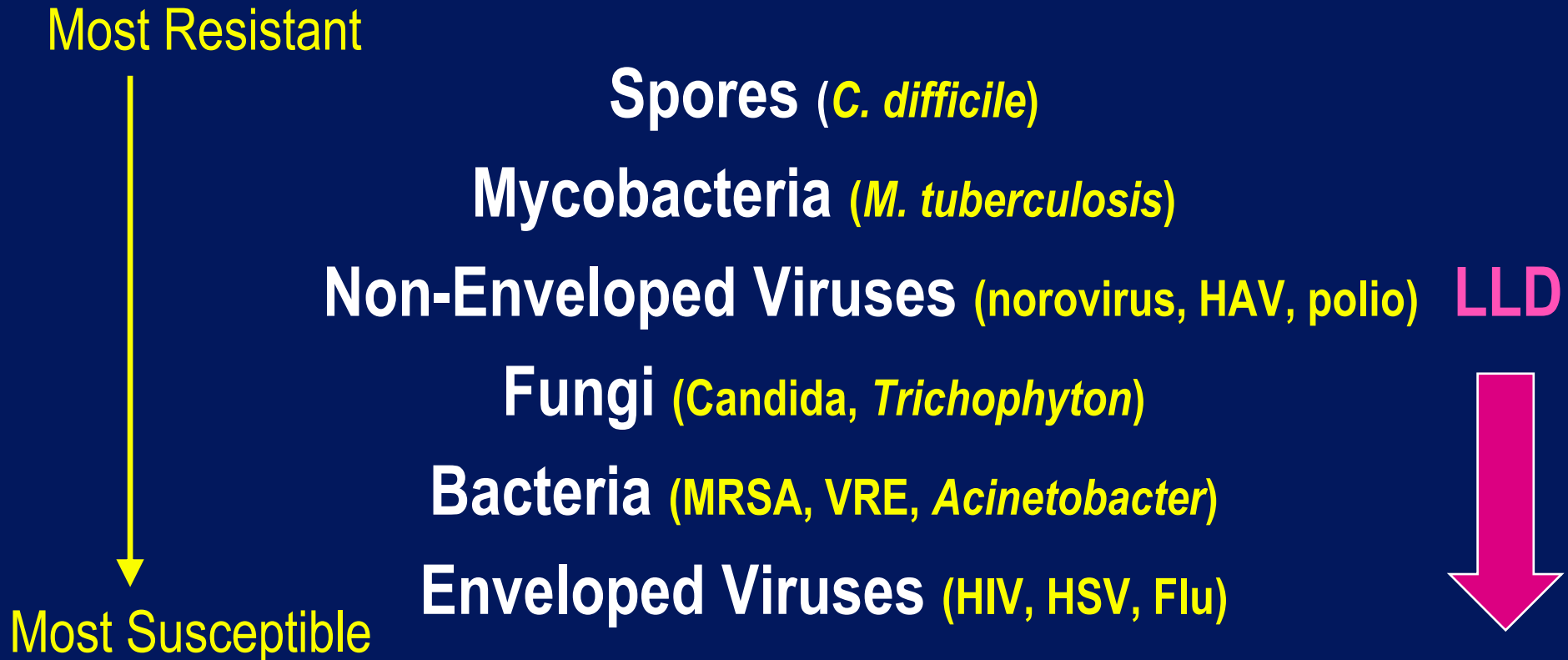
- *E. coli* (15.4%)
- *S. aureus* (11.8%)
- *Klebsiella* (7.7%)
- Coag neg Staph (7.7%)
- *E. faecalis* (7.4%)
- *P. aeruginosa* (7.3%)
- *C. albicans* (6.7%)
- *Enterobacter* sp. (4.2%)
- *E. faecium* (3.7%)

## □ Common causes of outbreaks and ward closures (relatively hard to kill)

- *C. difficile* spores
- Norovirus
- Rotavirus
- Adenovirus

# Microbiological Disinfectant Hierarchy

Rutala WA, Weber DJ, HICPAC. [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)





# LOW-LEVEL DISINFECTION FOR NONCRITICAL EQUIPMENT AND SURFACES

Rutala, Weber. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2014;35:855-865; Rutala, Weber, AJIC 2019;47:A96-A105

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, 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)

# *C. difficile*

## EPA-Registered Products

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- List K: EPA's Registered Antimicrobials Products Effective Against *C. difficile* spores, April 2014
- [http://www.epa.gov/oppad001/list\\_k\\_clostridium.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/oppad001/list_k_clostridium.pdf)
- Most registered products are chlorine-based, some HP/PA-based, one 4% HP

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  - All noncritical medical devices should be disinfected daily and when soiled
  - Clean and disinfectant sink and toilet
  - Damp mop floor with disinfectant-detergent
  - If disinfectant prepared on-site, document correct concentration
  - Address treatment time/contact time for wipes and liquid disinfectants (e.g., treatment time for wipes is the kill time and includes a wet time via wiping as well as the undisturbed time).

# Disinfection of Noncritical Surfaces Bundle

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- Develop policies and procedures
  - Environmental cleaning and disinfection is an integral part of preventing transmission of pathogens
  - In addition to identifying products and procedures, ensure standardization of cleaning throughout the hospital
    - ◆ Some units utilize ES to clean pieces of equipment (e.g., vital sign machines, IV pumps); some units use patient equipment, and some units utilize nursing staff.
    - ◆ Multidisciplinary group to create a standardized plan for cleaning patient rooms and pieces of patient equipment throughout the hospital

# Disinfection of Noncritical Surfaces Bundle

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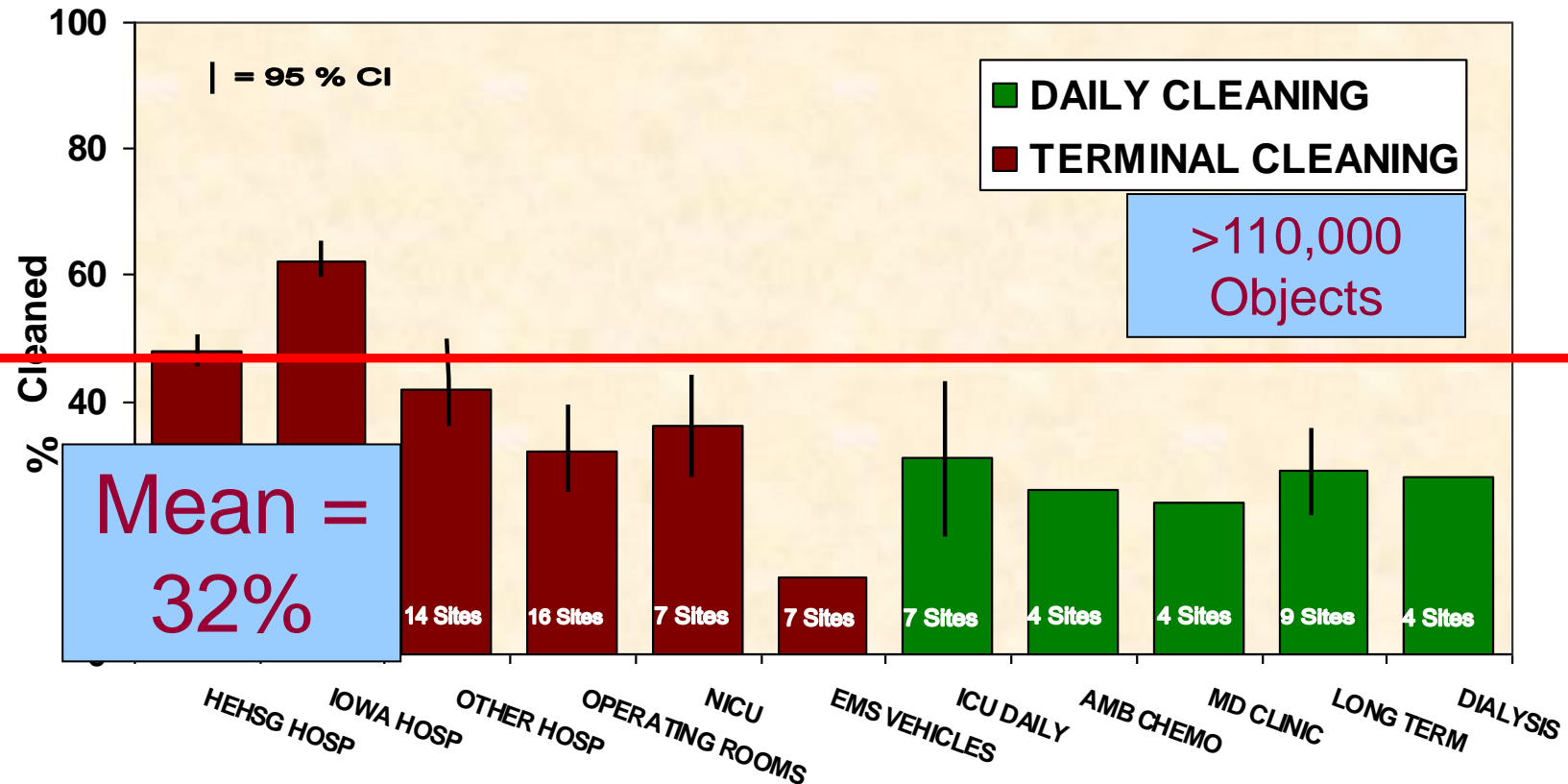
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# Effective Surface Decontamination

Product and Practice = Perfection

# Thoroughness of Environmental Cleaning

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





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# Practice\* NOT Product

\*surfaces not wiped

# MONITORING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CLEANING

Cooper et al. AJIC 2007;35:338

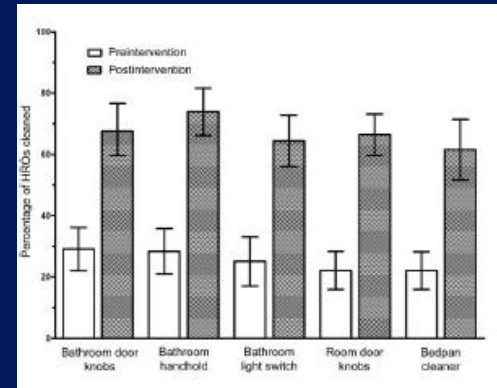
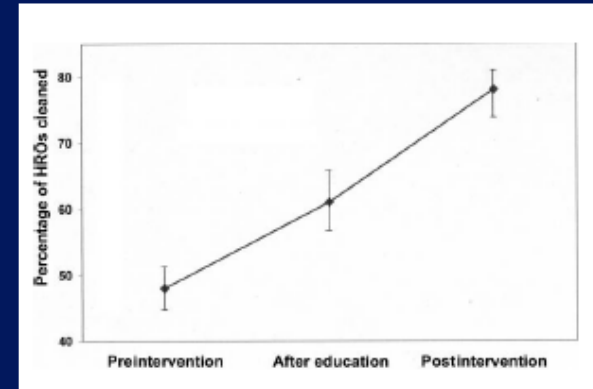
- Visual assessment-not a reliable indicator of surface cleanliness
- **ATP bioluminescence**-measures organic debris (each unit has own reading scale, <250-500 RLU)
- Microbiological methods-<2.5CFUs/cm<sup>2</sup>-pass; can be costly and pathogen specific
- **Fluorescent marker-transparent, easily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

# TARGET ENHANCED



# TERMINAL ROOM CLEANING: DEMONSTRATION OF IMPROVED CLEANING

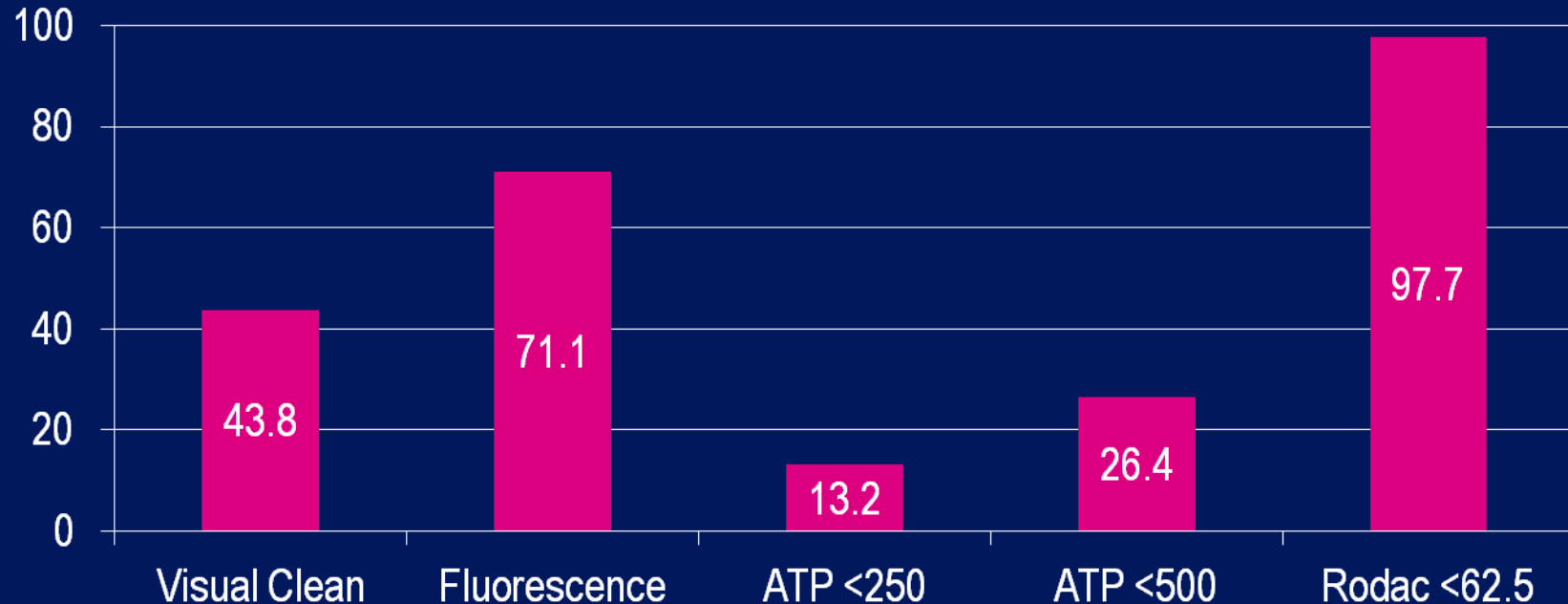
- Evaluated cleaning before and after an intervention to improve cleaning
  - 36 US acute care hospitals
  - Assessed cleaning using a fluorescent dye
  - Interventions
    - Increased education of environmental service workers
    - Feedback to environmental service workers
- †Regularly change “dotted” items to prevent targeting objects



# Percentage of Surfaces Clean by Different Measurement Methods

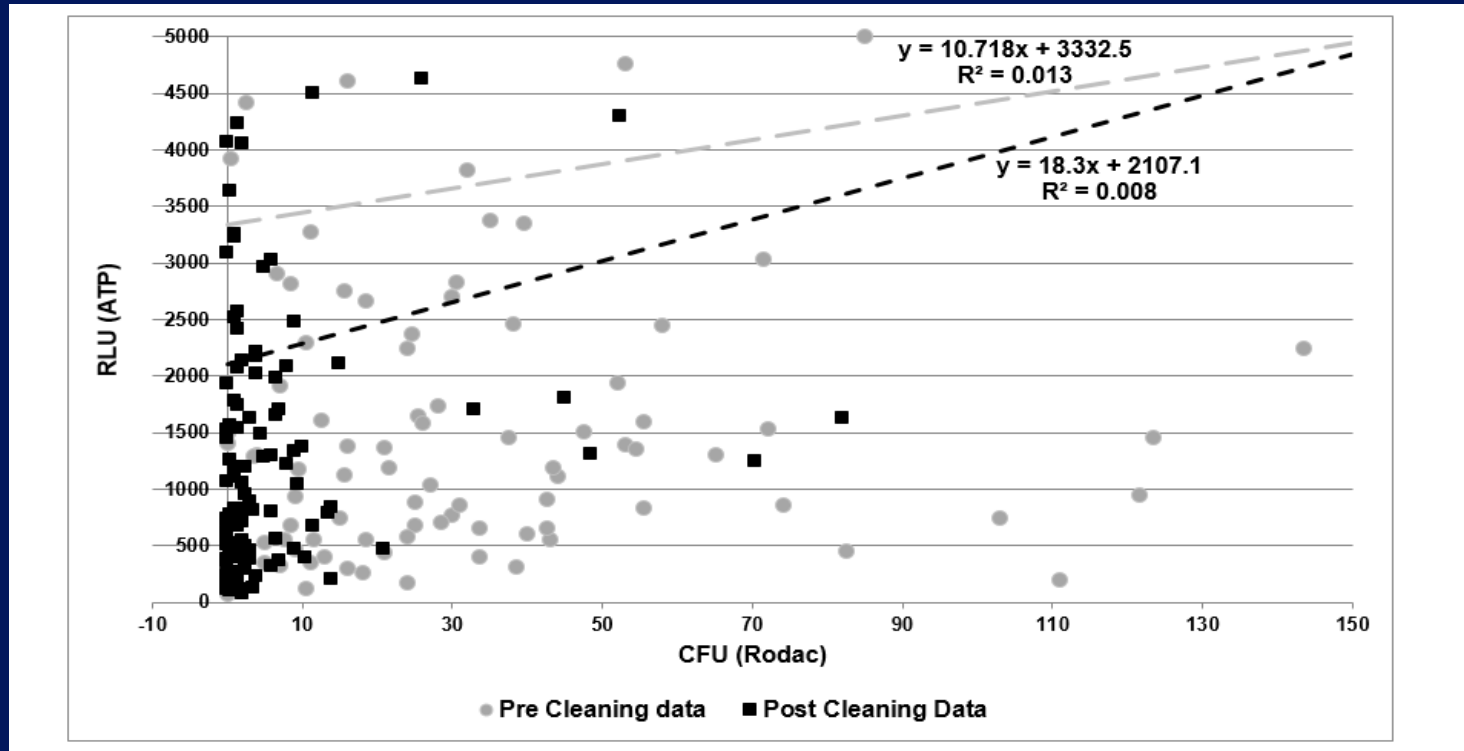
Rutala, Kanamori, Gergen, Sickbert-Bennett, Huslage, Weber. APIC Poster 2017.

Fluorescent marker is a useful tool in determining how thoroughly a surface is wiped and mimics the microbiological data better than ATP



# Scatterplot of ATP Levels (less than 5000 RLU) and Standard Aerobic Counts (CFU/Rodac)

Rutala, Kanamori, Gergen, Sickbert-Bennett, Huslage, Weber. APIC 2017



**There was no statistical correlation between ATP levels and standard aerobic plate counts.**

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# ALL “TOUCHABLE” (HAND CONTACT) SURFACES SHOULD BE WIPED WITH DISINFECTANT

“High touch” objects only recently defined (no significant differences in microbial contamination of different surfaces) and “high risk” objects not epidemiologically defined.

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

Surface	Prior to Cleaning Mean CFU/RODAC (95% CI)	Post Cleaning (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

Huslage K, Rutala WA, Weber DJ. ICHE. 2013;34:211-212



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# **Future Methods to Ensure Thoroughness**

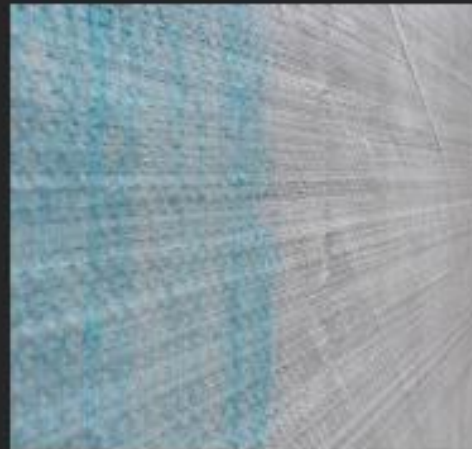
# Future May Have Methods to Ensure Thoroughness Such as Colorized Disinfectant

Kang et al. J Hosp Infect 2017

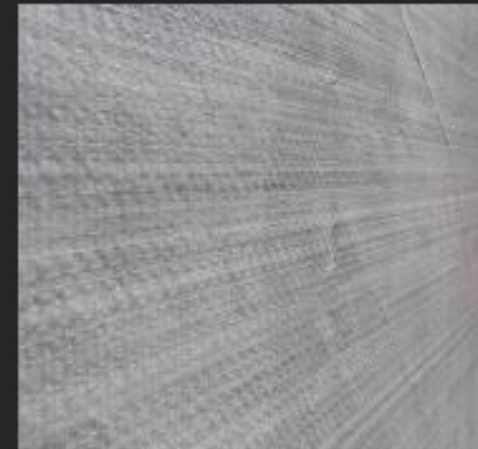
## Colorized disinfection – contact time compliance



0 min



2 min



4 min

- Color-fading time matched to disinfectant contact time --> enforces compliance
- Provides real-time feedback when disinfection is complete
- Trains staff on importance of contact time as they use the product

# Colorized disinfection – improved coverage

Regular disinfectant wipes



Colorized wipes



- Increased visibility when disinfecting surfaces, fewer missed spots
- Real-time quality control that allows staff to monitor thoroughness of cleaning

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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 (and new strategies)

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

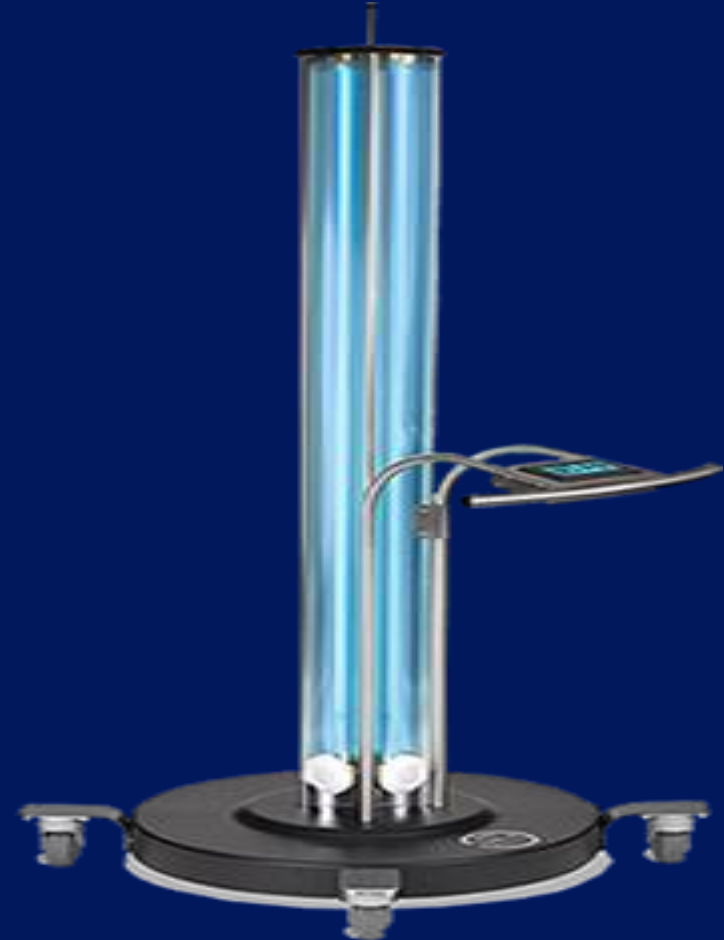
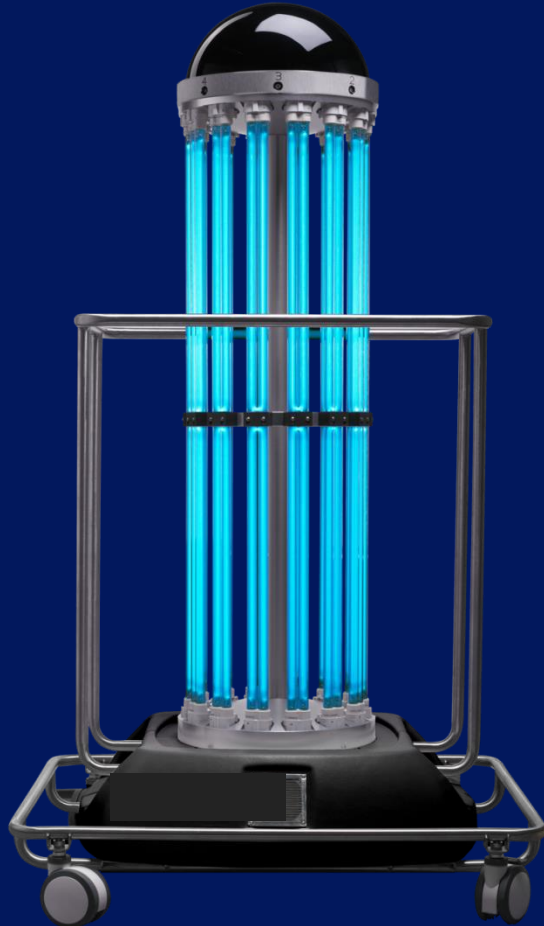
No Touch

(supplements but do not replace surface cleaning/disinfection)

# **“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.



# 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 In press.

	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

All enhanced disinfection technologies were significantly superior to Quat alone in reducing EIPs. 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%). Our data demonstrated that a decrease in room contamination was associated with a decrease in patient colonization/infection. First study which quantitatively described the entire pathway whereby improved disinfection decreases microbial contamination which in-turn reduced patient colonization/infection.

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**This technology (“no touch”-e.g., UV/HP) should be used (capital equipment budget) for terminal room disinfection (e.g., after discharge of patients on Contact Precautions).**



# New Strategies in Cleaning and Disinfection

[www.disinfectionandsterilization.org](http://www.disinfectionandsterilization.org)

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- New Strategies in Cleaning and Disinfection
  - ◆ Wipes, disinfectant contact time
  - ◆ Inactivation of *C. auris*, CRE, SARS-CoV-2
  - ◆ UV
  - ◆ Continuous room decontamination

# Review of Wipes to Disinfect Hard Surfaces

Boyce JM. Am J Infect Control. 2021

## Advantages

- Avoids Improper dilution
- Avoids human errors (double dip)
- Ratio of disinfectant-wipe standard
- Lower risk of contamination
- Effectively removes microbial contaminants
- Greater compliance by environmental service personnel
- Lower employee time costs
- No laundering

## Disadvantages

- Inappropriate disposal into toilets
- Potential environmental impact
- Storage area needed
- Supply costs

# Disinfectant Kill Time

Rutala, Weber. AJIC. 2019

- Each chemical disinfectant requires a specific length of time it must remain in contact with a microorganism to achieve complete inactivation.
- This is known as the “kill time” (or “contact time”) and the registered kill times for each microorganism will be clearly listed
- There are only **two papers in the peer-review literature that assessed EPA-registered disinfectants that are directly on point to the question will hospital disinfectants kill hospital pathogens in 1 minute**



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# Germicidal Activity against Carbapenem/Colistin-Resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* Using a Quantitative Carrier Test Method

Hajime Kanamori,<sup>a,b</sup> William A. Rutala,<sup>a,b</sup> Maria F. Gergen,<sup>a</sup> Emily E. Sickbert-Bennett,<sup>a,b</sup> David J. Weber<sup>a,b</sup>

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**ABSTRACT** Susceptibility to germicides for carbapenem/colistin-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* is poorly described. We investigated the efficacy of multiple germicides against these emerging antibiotic-resistant pathogens using the disc-based quantitative carrier test method that can produce results more similar to those encountered in health care settings than a suspension test. Our study results demonstrated that germicides commonly used in health care facilities likely will be effective against carbapenem/colistin-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* when used appropriately in health care facilities.

**KEYWORDS** carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae* carbapenemase, colistin-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae*, *mcr-1*, germicides, disinfectants, antiseptics, efficacy

# Efficacy of Disinfectants and Antiseptics against Carbapenem-Resistant *Enterobacteriaceae*

Rutala, Kanamori, Gergen, Sickbert-Bennett, Weber, 2017 ID Week;  
Kanamori et al Antimicrob. Agents Chemother 2018.

- $\geq 3 \log_{10}$  reduction (CRE, 1m, 5% FCS, QCT)
  - 0.20% peracetic acid
  - 2.4% glutaraldehyde
  - 0.5% Quat, 55% isopropyl alcohol
  - 58% ethanol, 0.1% QUAT
  - 28.7% isopropyl alcohol, 27.3% ethyl alcohol, 0.61% QAC
  - 0.07% o-phenylphenol, 0.06% p-tertiary amylphenol
  - ~5,250 ppm chlorine
  - 70% isopropyl alcohol
  - Ethanol hand rub (70% ethanol)
  - 0.65% hydrogen peroxide, 0.15% peroxyacetic acid
  - Accelerated hydrogen peroxide, 1.4% and 2.0%
  - Quat, (0.085% QACs; not *K. pneumoniae*)

# *Candida auris*

Cadnum et al . ICHE 2017;38:1240-1243

- *Candida auris* is a globally emerging pathogen that is often resistant to multiple antifungal agents
- In several reports, *C. auris* has been recovered from the hospital environment
- CDC has recommended daily and post-discharge disinfection of surfaces in rooms of patients with *C. auris* infection.
- No hospital disinfectants are registered for use specifically against *C. auris*, and its susceptibility to germicides is not known

# Efficacy of Disinfectants and Antiseptics against *Candida auris*

Rutala, Kanamori, Gergen, Sickbert-Bennett, Weber, ICHE 2019

- $\geq 3 \log_{10}$  reduction (*C. auris*, 1m, 5% FCS, QCT)
  - 0.20% peracetic acid
  - 2.4% glutaraldehyde
  - 0.65% hydrogen peroxide, 0.14% peroxyacetic acid
  - 0.5% Quat, 55% isopropyl alcohol
  - Disinfecting spray (58% ethanol, 0.1% QUAT)
  - 28.7% isopropyl alcohol, 27.3% ethyl alcohol, 0.61% QAC
  - 0.07% o-phenylphenol, 0.06% p-tertiary amylphenol
  - 70% isopropyl alcohol
  - ~5,250 ppm chlorine
  - Ethanol hand rub (70% ethanol)
  - Accelerated hydrogen peroxide, 1.4%
  - Accelerated hydrogen peroxide, 2%

# Efficacy of Disinfectants and Antiseptics against *Candida auris*

Rutala, Kanamori, Gergen, Sickbert-Bennett, Weber, ICHE 2019

- $\leq 3 \log_{10}$  (most  $< 2 \log_{10}$ ) reduction (*C. auris*, 1m, 5% FCS, QCT)
  - 0.55% OPA
  - 3% hydrogen peroxide
  - Quat, (0.085% QACs)
  - 10% povidone-iodine
  - ~1,050 ppm chlorine
  - 2% Chlorhexidine gluconate-CHG
  - 4% CHG
  - 0.5% triclosan
  - 1% CHG, 61% ethyl alcohol
  - 1% chloroxylenol



# Role of Healthcare Surface Environment in SARS-CoV-2 Transmission

Kanamori, Weber, Rutala, Clin Infect Dis, In press

SARS-CoV-2 RNA				
Bed rail	Sink	BP monitor	Infusion pump	Keyboard
Bedside table	Floor	ECG monitor	Fluid stand	Phone
Chair	Toilet seat	Oxygen regulator	Hand sanitizer	Computer mouse
Doorknob	Toilet bowl	Oxygen mask	Trash can	Door
Light switches	Stethoscope	CT scanner	Self-service printer	Glass window
Call button	Pulse oximetry	Ventilator	Desktop	PPE storage area
Centrifuge	Biosafety cabinet	Infant bed	Air outlet	Ambu bag
TV remote	Bed sheet	Urinary catheters	TV	Beepers
Elevator buttons	Ventilator tubing	Glove boxes	Touch screen	All surfaces in nurse's station

# Environmental Contamination in COVID-19 Rooms with Severe Pneumonia

Ahn et al. J Hosp Infect 2020;106:570

Pt 1 and 2-2/48-4% (closed suction to ventilator)  
pt 3-13/28-46% (high-flow oxygen therapy via nasal cannula, non-invasive ventilation). **Found viable virus (7/28-25%) only on surfaces within droplet distance (bedside table, remote control, bed rails, bedsheets, mask, nasal prongs, floor near patient). All air samples negative.**

Sample	PCR	Patient 1			Culture	Patient 2			Culture	Patient 3			Culture
		C <sub>T</sub> value		E gene		C <sub>T</sub> value		E gene		C <sub>T</sub> value		E gene	
		RdRp	RdRp			RdRp	RdRp			RdRp			
Air	—			ND	—			ND	—			ND	
Air outlet fan	—			ND	—			ND	+	33.93	34.99	—	
Air inlet fan	—			ND	—			ND	—			ND	
Nasal prong/endotracheal tube	+	30.95	31.36	+	+	32.33	33.02	—	+	31.78	34.28	+	
Intravenous pole	—			ND	—			ND	—			ND	
Computer	—			ND	—			ND	—			ND	
Medication cart	—			ND	—			ND	—			ND	
Window	—			ND	—			ND	U	U	U	—	
Window frame	—			ND	—			ND	—	34.23	36.04	—	
Blind curtain	—			ND	—			ND	—			ND	
Wall 1	—			ND	—			ND	—			ND	
Wall 2	—			ND	—			ND	—			ND	
Floor near the patient <sup>a</sup>	—			ND	—			ND	+	30.38	33.07	+	
Floor far from the patient <sup>b</sup>	—			ND	—			ND	+	31.97	34.28	—	
Bed rails	—			ND	—			ND	+	30.22	30.13	+	
Bedsheet	—			ND	—			ND	+	31.54	31.99	+	
Pillows	—			ND	—			ND	ND			ND	
Faucet handle	—			ND	—			ND	ND			ND	
Door knob	—			ND	—			ND	—			ND	
Call button	—			ND	—			ND	—			ND	
Restraint	—			ND	—			ND	+	34.08	35.18	—	
Blood pressure cuff	—			ND	—			ND	—			ND	
Ambu mask/NIV mask	—			ND	—			ND	+	28.85	28.94	+	
Ventilator	—			ND	—			ND	—			ND	
Patient monitor	—			ND	—			ND	—			ND	
Bedside table	ND			ND	ND			ND	U	33.09	U	+	
High-flow oxygen generator	ND			ND	ND			ND	+	30.56	33.12	—	
Telephone	ND			ND	ND			ND	+	31.39	33.42	—	
Remote controller	ND			ND	ND			ND	+	29.48	29.66	+	
Thermometer	ND			ND	ND			ND	+	31.56	32.13	—	
Cup	ND			ND	ND			ND	+	32.32	33.55	—	

# Decreasing Order of Resistance of Microorganisms to Disinfectants/Sterilants

Rutala, Weber, CDC DS Guideline 2008. [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

Most Resistant



Prions

Spores (*C. difficile*)

Mycobacteria

Non-Enveloped Viruses (*norovirus, adeno*)

Fungi

Bacteria (*MRSA, VRE, Acinetobacter*)

Most Susceptible

Enveloped Viruses (*SARS-CoV-2*)

# Role of Healthcare Surface Environment in SARS-CoV-2 Transmission

Kanamori, Weber, Rutala, Clin Infect Dis, 2020.

- CDC recommends that an EPA-registered disinfectant on the EPA's List N that has qualified under the emerging pathogen program for use against SARS-CoV-2 be chosen for the COVID-19 patient care.
- List N has >500 entries and 32 different active ingredients (Quats, chlorine, etc)

# Disinfection of Noncritical Surfaces Bundle

NL Havill AJIC 2013;41:S26-30

- 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

# THANK YOU!

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