

Battling Germs that Keep Getting Stronger

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ABSTRACT

Battling Germs That Keep Getting Stronger, an article appearing on www.cbc.ca, highlights the emergence of antibiotic resistant organisms (AROs) in healthcare and the community and the potential role certain antibacterial products play in the development of such resistance. AHP surface disinfectant cleaners exhibit broad spectrum germicidal efficacy in rapid and realistic contact times. Hydrogen Peroxide, the active ingredient in Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide® (AHP®), does not remain on the surface once it has dried, hence it does not provide the opportunity for bacteria to develop resistance to it. Therefore, AHP surface disinfectant cleaners can be used safely and effectively to reduce bacterial contamination on surfaces

BACKGROUND

Antibacterial wipes are ubiquitous in today's home, workplace and public areas. They have become a quick and convenient means to protect oneself from picking up germs from a surface. By and large, their usage has come to replace good cleaning standards or practices. However, researchers are now suggesting that certain antibacterial products are not truly effective at killing sufficient levels of bacteria on the surface. Typically, these products exhibit limited germicidal efficacy – 99% bacterial kill vs. hospital grade disinfection of 99.9999% - in long, unrealistic contact times (ie. 10 mins). While the mechanical action used to wipe the surface will remove some bacteria, a significant number of organisms are left behind to survive, proliferate and potentially evolve to become resistant to the antibacterial active ingredient. Quite often this ingredient is triclosan, a weak antibacterial agent. The

key to mitigate this risk is to utilize effective disinfectants in situations that require them, or good mechanical cleaning in lower risk environments. Disinfectants that achieve effective bactericidal efficacy in a rapid and realistic contact time, while not leaving an active residual on the surface after application, will remove the opportunity for any bacteria to develop resistance to them. Likewise, good effective cleaning with soap and water will often achieve the same reduction of bacteria on the surface as weak antibacterial products, without creating the potential for resistance development.

REFERENCES

To view the whole article, click on the link below <http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/battling-germs-that-keepgetting-stronger-1.781633>