

ANTIMICROBIALS FOR HEALTHCARE

Improve cleanliness in hygiene-critical healthcare environments by enhancing products and equipment with antimicrobial protection

WHAT IMPACT DO MICROBES HAVE ON THE PATIENT ENVIRONMENT?

Healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) impact more than 6.7 million people annually globally. New research indicates that the patient environment is just as important as a nurse's hands in its impact on the patient's overall well-being. You encounter many bacteria when you enter the patient room in a hospital, primary care physician's office or an outpatient facility. Facilities have routines for cleaning, but the training and compliance monitoring systems are in the early stages of development.

As the development of new solutions for these issues continues to progress, innovative technologies built-in to materials used in the healthcare environment will be an essential part of a systems approach to keeping healthcare facilities cleaner.

HOW DO BUILT-IN ANTIMICROBIALS SUPPORT CLEANER HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENTS?

Antimicrobial Technologies are built into products at the point of manufacture to inhibit the growth of harmful organisms in healthcare environments. In lab studies, customized antimicrobial technologies for healthcare surfaces have been shown to reduce bacteria such as MRSA, E. coli, and VRE by up to 99.9%. Kleenclad uses only Biomaster - Polygiene Silverion Anti Microbial technology for all its range of K-Bio sheets

Antimicrobial products for healthcare benefit from the added protection provided by integrated technologies. Even after repeated contamination, these products remain cleaner between cleaning and help to reduce the spread of product-degrading bacteria on high-touch surfaces.

HOW ARE ANTIMICROBIALS INTEGRATED INTO HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS?

Antimicrobials are added to Kleenclad -K-Bio sheets at the point of manufacture, becoming part of the molecular structure of the treated articles.

HOW DO BUILT-IN ANTIMICROBIALS SUPPORT CLEANER HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENTS?

Although the terms "antibiotic" and "antimicrobial" are often interchanged, there is no relationship between the development of antibiotic resistance and built-in antimicrobial protection. In fact, built-in antimicrobials can support antibiotic resistance prevention efforts.

As embedded antimicrobial technologies help the growth of specific types of bacteria, there are fewer organisms in the patient environment that patients and employees may come into contact with over time. The reduction of bacterial presence, along with consistent cleaning and disinfection protocols, could lead to a reduced need for antibiotics to treat the specific strains of bacteria controlled within the environment.



HOW CAN ANTIMICROBIAL TECHNOLOGIES SUPPORT SUSTAINABILITY GOALS IN HEALTHCARE?

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Extend material lifespan: - Products featuring antimicrobial technology can resist deterioration and degradation caused by microbial growth. This prolongs the lifespan of materials and reduces the frequency of replacements or renovations in healthcare facilities. Fewer replacements mean less waste generation, reduced water and energy consumption, greater cost savings, improved building efficiencies and lower environmental impact, aligning with sustainability goals.

Decrease chemical disinfectant use: - Traditional cleaning and disinfection methods in healthcare facilities often involve the use of harsh chemical agents. Built-in antimicrobials can supplement these efforts, reducing the frequency and amount of chemical disinfectants needed. A decrease in the use of chemical disinfectants can lower the release of potentially harmful chemicals into the environment and reduce the carbon footprint associated with their production and transportation.

Improve energy efficiency: - The integration of antimicrobial technology can lead to more efficient systems in healthcare facilities (i.e. HVAC systems, insulation). By controlling microbial growth on surfaces, these systems may require less energy to operate optimally. Improved energy efficiency contributes to reduced greenhouse gas emissions and aligns with sustainability objectives.

Enhance durability and maintenance: - Surfaces with built-in antimicrobials are often easier to keep clean and maintain due to their resistance to microbial growth. This can result in reduced water usage and fewer cleaning supplies required for upkeep. Streamlining maintenance practices contributes to resource conservation and cost savings over time.



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