L'Association des infirmières en prévention des infections

May 5, 2019

Inappropriate Use of Disinfectants: One Size Does Not Fit All!

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Disclaimer

- I work for Virox Technologies Inc, a manufacturer of disinfectants.

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Disclaimer #2

- The stories you are about to hear are based upon firsthand accounts of the actual events. Any similarities between the characters in the presentation and real or fictional persons is merely coincidental.
- No people or animals were harmed in the making of this presentation.

CAUTION

Disinfectant Offences: Uncovering the Unobvious

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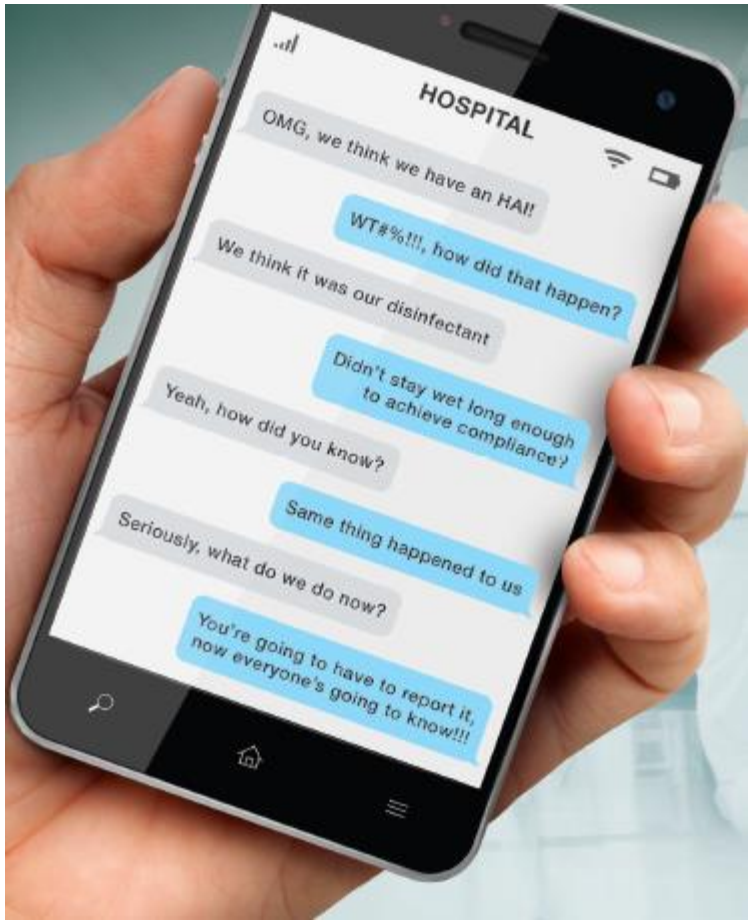
Our First Line of Defence

- Disinfectants are the first line of defence against pathogens wanting to wage war on your healthcare facility.
- What are you doing to ensure your disinfectant is truly providing the protection your infection prevention program needs?



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The Shiny Surface Syndicate

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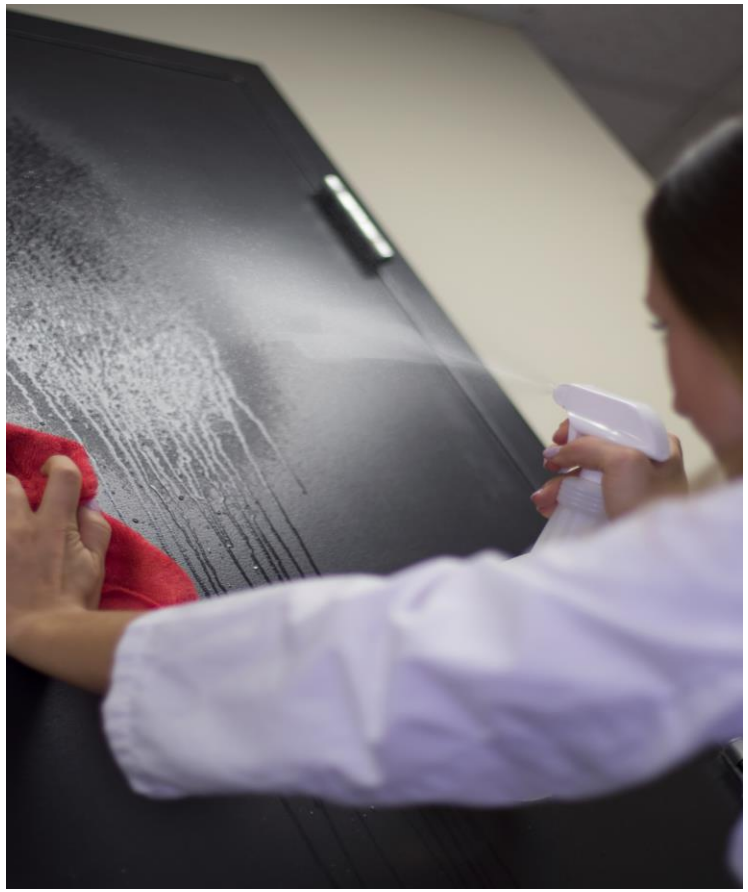
Wiping Warriors



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Custodial Chemists

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Diluting Delinquents

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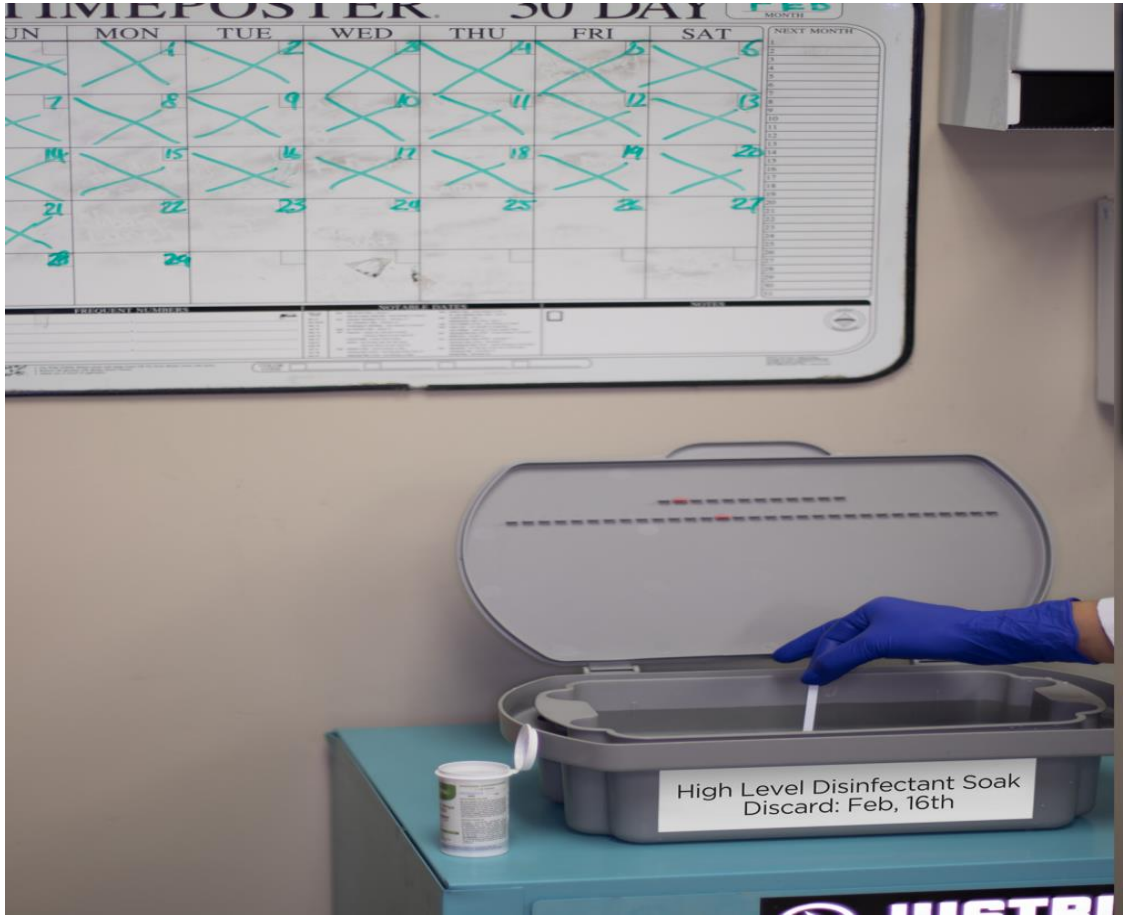
Monitoring Mistakes



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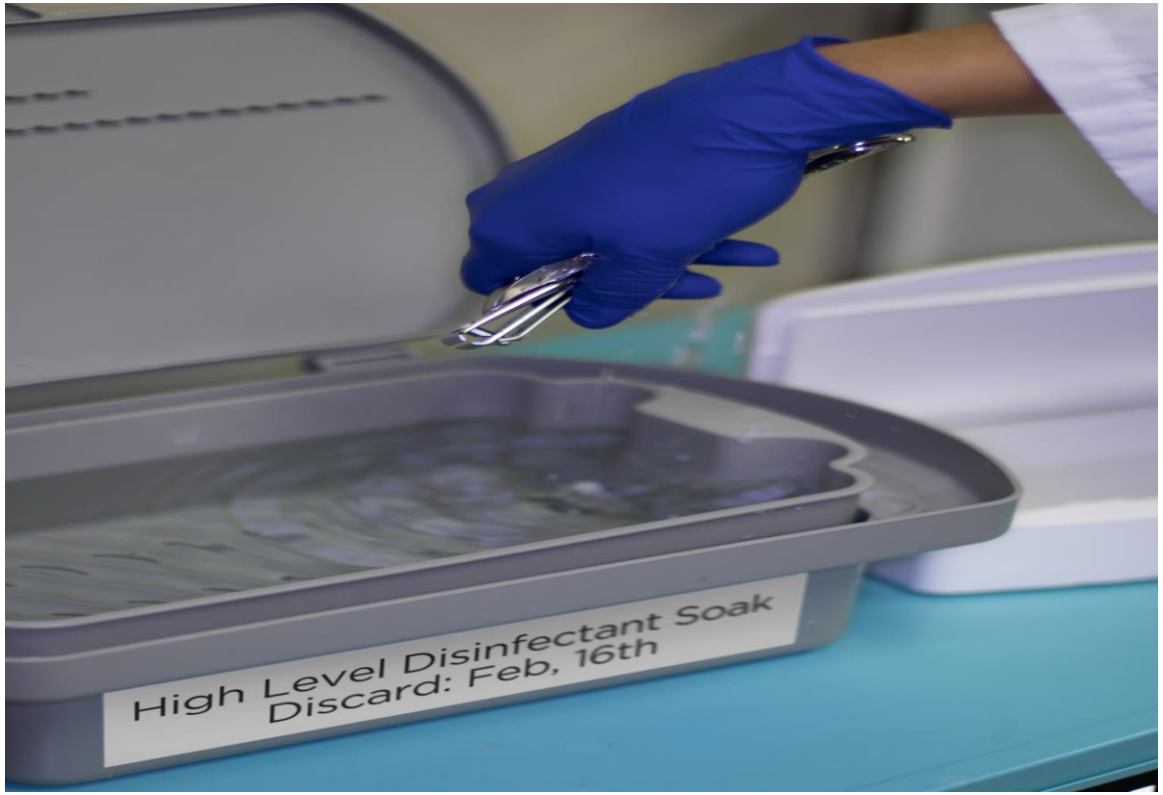
Soaking Slipup



Case Studies:
Detecting Disinfection Dysfunction

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Case Study 1

- Facility A had been experiencing an on-going VRE and *C. difficile* outbreak. To try and get the outbreak under control, Infection Prevention in consultation with Environmental Services decided that they would implement the use of a sporicidal agent daily throughout the entire facility. Environmental Services partnered with their vendor to provide a product training over the course of two days to ensure all housekeeping staff were properly introduced to the new product. Introduction of the product was showing the expected results in reducing new cases, however some staff were complaining of eye irritation and/or skin irritation while working with the product. Environmental Services had the vendor back in to repeat training. Staff continued to complain and submitted formal complaints to Occupational Health and were threatening to call the Ministry of Labour.

What was the cause of the continued occupational and health complaints?

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Case Study 2

- Facility B declared an outbreak of MRSA. The facility used one concentrated product for day to day cleaning and disinfection and a second concentrated product for high risk units, isolation rooms and when outbreaks were declared. Within two weeks of implementing of their outbreak protocol all but two units were showing a reduction in cases. Environmental Services audited the cleaning and disinfection practices and found no issues. Infection Prevention worked with nursing to audit cleaning and disinfection practices and similarly found that shared patient care equipment was being cleaned and disinfected as required.

Why were the two units not experiencing the same outcome as the rest of the facility?

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Case Study 3

- Facility C had a very robust infection control program. Infection Prevention and Environmental Services worked very closely and had developed a monitoring program that included a monthly preventative maintenance program for all dilution control equipment, the use of UV markers for weekly validation of cleaning and disinfection processes and quarterly microbial testing of environmental surfaces. During a quarterly review of their data, the Infection Prevention team began noticing some unusual anomalies that could be traced back to two different housekeeping staff. Both staff had consistent high scores for their weekly UV validation tests, but their quarterly microbial results did not reflect the cleaning results showing higher bacterial counts. Microbial testing was repeated confirming the initial results.

Why were the results of the microbial testing not correlating to the UV marker results?

Final Thoughts

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STOP the Chemical Abuse!

- Sweep up the Shiny Surface Syndicate
- Rehabilitate the Top-Off Artists
- Cancel the Custodial Chemist Classes
- Disband the Glug-Glug Gang & More is Better Bandits
- Eliminate the All For One Army
- Retrain the Instruction Ignorers
- Don’t Allow the Sink or Swim Squad to Prosper!

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A Successful & Compliant Disinfection Program

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Eliminating Errors

- Develop a product selection committee that supports all areas of product use
  - Infection Control, Environmental Services, Nursing, Physicians, Laboratory, Occupational Health, Vendors
- Understand the "pain points" of product use
- Identify, assess and control the "critical points" in the cleaning and disinfection process
- Look for the unobvious, not just the obvious or merely obvious!

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Questions?

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