

Hypothesis

- Understand levels and diversity of bacteria present on traditional LST radiator guard which has no access for cleaning or anti-microbial coating, compared to a modern solution that has complete internal access and anti-microbial protection
- The convection process, heat and airborne routes of transmission have been identified as contributing toward microbial distribution
- Biocides and disinfectants play a major role in eliminating organisms; integration into building service elements can aid prevention and surface transmission

Methodology

- Swabbing samples were collected from the same number of radiator guards in a refurbished hospital corridor which had modern radiator guards and also a non-refurbished corridor which had traditional radiator guards
- In total a surface area of 0.2m² was swabbed on each guard
- Swabbing locations included internal and external guard surfaces, exposed internal rear wall and the emitter

Did you know...

1 in 9 patients in European hospitals has at least one hospital acquired infection



and that...

adults with a HAI spend 2.5 times longer in hospital resulting in higher treatment costs.



Traditional Guard

More Bacteria

85%

503%

Over 500% more microbial colonies were found on the non-treated traditional radiators compared to the treated modern LST guards.

Modern LST Guard

91% Mean reduction in microbe loading when considering internal surfaces of the radiator guards only.

86% Mean reduction when both internal and external surfaces of the radiator guards were analysed.

83% Mean reduction in microbe loading when external radiator guard faces only were examined.

82% Mean reduction in microbe counts when the exposed internal rear wall and emitter were also taken into consideration.

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