

Wendy Dale
Domestic Services Manager
York Hospital
Wigginton Road
YO31 8HE

Hospital Microfibre Bacteriological Monitoring Visit

Date: 13th June 2008

Dear Wendy

Please find attached the microbiological results following the recent visits to **York Hospital** during May 2008. Samples were taken pre/post laundering to evaluate the effectiveness of OTEX disinfection process. Individual microfibre cloths/mops were randomly selected before and after processing with OTEX. All samples were handled in an aseptic manner and analysed by an independent laboratory, which is UKAS accredited, Microsearch Laboratories Ltd and Huddersfield University.

The results demonstrate the effectiveness of the disinfection of the OTEX process on microfibre cloths and mops. Whilst *C.difficile* was detected in the pre laundered items no clostridium species was detected in any of the processed cloths or mops.

At the time of the site visit the following observations were made:

- Overloading of the washing machines was witnessed together with mixed loads of cotton mops and microfibre. This will have a detrimental effect on the quality of the wash and could ultimately affect the mechanical condition of the machines.
- The filters on the wall mounted ozone and oxygen generator units were found to be dirty on both occasions. It is important that the filters are kept clean to ensure the system is working effectively.
- Thermal disinfection cycles were observed being used by our engineer on a recent service visit.
- Lack of hygiene observed following the handling of contaminated mops and cloths by staff at York.
- Although the validation unit was operational the printer was not functioning. This has been reported to our service department for their attention.
- Refresher training is recommended.

I trust this meets with your requirements. Should you require any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact Lara Wade (Account Manager) or Jackie Hook (Chemist) on Halifax (01422) 822282.

Microbiological Test Results Pre/Post OTEX Laundry Process (Cfu/g)					
Sample Description	Originating Laboratory	Lab Ref No:	State	Total Viable Count (TVC)	C. difficile
Microfibre Mop	Huddersfield University	YKA	Before	---	15
Microfibre Mop	Huddersfield University	YKG	After	---	0
Red Microfibre Cloth	Huddersfield University	YKC	Before	--	29
Red Microfibre Cloth	Huddersfield University	YKI	After	--	0
Blue Microfibre Cloth	Huddersfield University	YKE	Before	--	15
Blue Microfibre Cloth	Huddersfield University	YKK	After	--	0
Microfibre Mop	Microsearch Laboratories	YKB	Before	8.00E+09	2.10E+04
Microfibre Mop	Microsearch Laboratories	YKH	After	3.00E+02	<1
Red Microfibre Cloth	Microsearch Laboratories	YKD	Before	9.20E+07	3.70E+03
Red Microfibre Cloth	Microsearch Laboratories	YKJ	After	40	<1
Blue Microfibre Cloth	Microsearch Laboratories	YKF	Before	90	2
Blue Microfibre Cloth	Microsearch Laboratories	YKL	After	20	<1

Legend: **< = Less than.**