

MRSA Contamination of Nurses Uniforms Test



Most care labels in nurses' uniforms recommend a maximum 40°C wash

As independent microbiologists, Microsearch Laboratories were asked to carry out comparative tests on nurses' uniforms impregnated with a strain of the superbug MRSA.

The care labels of nurses' uniforms commonly carry the recommendation that they should be washed at 40°C.

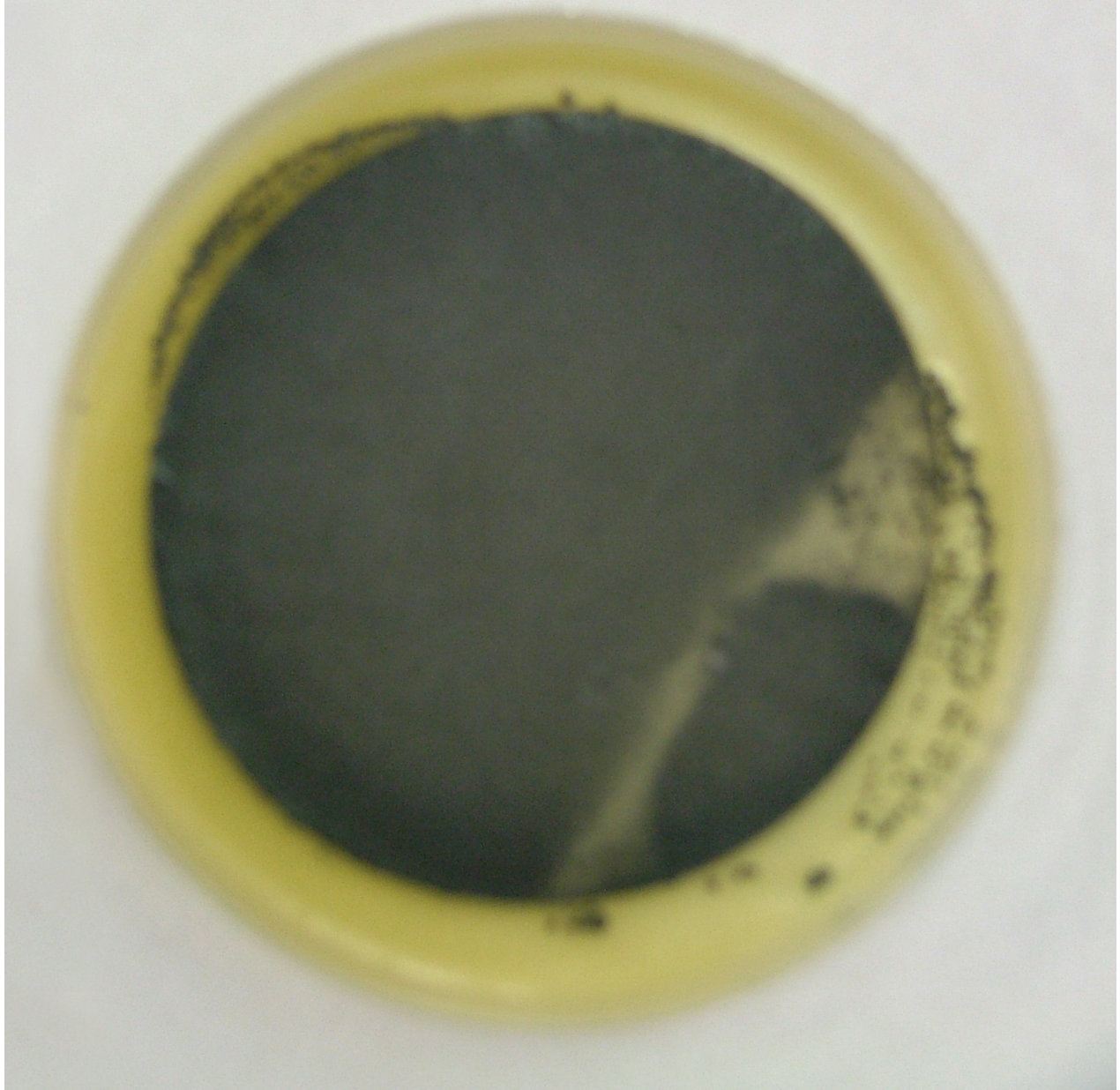
Therefore, one test was carried out using a conventional 40°C wash cycle. A second test was carried out with an OTEX cycle.

The first of the following photographs shows the MRSA bug which had been impregnated onto a membrane. The membranes were implanted into the garments prior to the uniforms undergoing any laundry process.

The second shows the residual MRSA culture on the recovered membrane after having been washed at 40°C.

The third shows the absence of residual MRSA culture on the recovered membrane after an OTEX cycle.

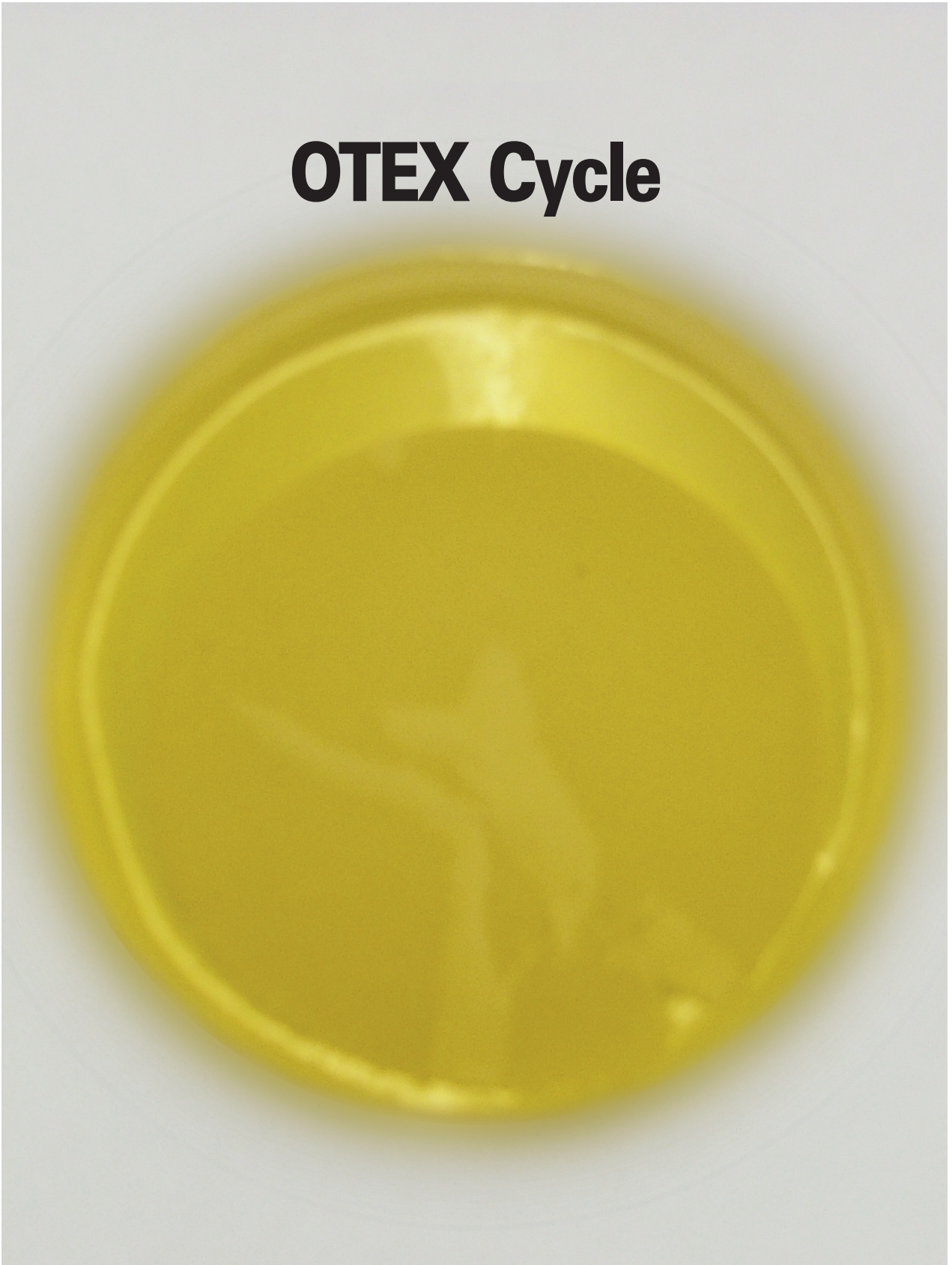
Unwashed



40°C Wash Cycle



OTEX Cycle



Results

Our data indicates that a greater than a log 8.0 reduction (99.999999%) in MRSA was obtained on population of garments washed by the OTEX process

The average log reduction achieved by the 40°C wash was only 3.3 (99.93%)

To clarify the reduction of MRSA achieved by the OTEX procedure was greater than log 8.0 – in fact we were unable to isolate any survivors from the OTEX treated garments.

Our senior microbiologist regarded the failure of the 40°C wash as 'astounding'.
He described the OTEX result as 'outstanding'.



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