



Your Laundry & Infection Control Partner

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Hospital Microfibre Bacteriological Monitoring Visit

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Dear Collette

Please find attached the microbiological results following the recent visit to QEII Welwyn Garden 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.

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 extremely dirty. The area around the units was also found to be congested with other items such as a portable heater. It is important that the filters are kept clean and the area around the equipment is kept free to ensure the system is working effectively.
- The infrared mechanism on the taps was not working and at the time of the site visit no hand washing facilities was available. This needs to be addressed.
- 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.

Table 1: Microsearch Laboratories Ltd Analysis:

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 Cloth	Microsearch Laboratories	WGC1	Before	9.10E+07	1.30E+04
Microfibre Cloth	Microsearch Laboratories	WGC2	After	2.00E+02	<1

Legend: < = Less than

Table 2: Dipslide Results (JLA)

Microbiological Test Results Pre/Post OTEX Laundry Process (Cfu/g)			
Sample Description	Lab Ref No:	State	Tot3al Viable Count (TVC)
Microfibre Cloth	WGCd1	Before	Heavy Growth
Microfibre Cloth	WGCd2	After	No Growth
Microfibre Mop	WGCd3	Before	Heavy Growth
Microfibre Mop	WGCd4	After	No Growth