



Your Laundry & Infection Control Partner

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Hammersmith *Hospital Microfibre Bacteriological Monitoring Visit*

Dear Collette

Please find attached the microbiological results following the recent visit to **Hammersmith Hospital** in December 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.

Routine dipslides were also used to monitor the disinfection process. These were processed in JLA's R & D laboratory.

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

- The filters on the oxygen generator and ozone unit were found to be extremely dirty. These should be checked every day and cleaned on a regularly basis. Blocked filters can have a detrimental impact upon the production of ozone. JLA staff cleaned filters prior to taking samples for analysis.
- Paper for the validation unit was absent. It would be difficult to provide records for audit purposes of satisfactory disinfection without the validation printouts.
- There are no facilities for hand washing within the laundry. From experience of the bacteriological challenge of hospital mops and cloths hand washing facilities should be made available. Relying on protective gloves will not assist in reducing or eliminating cross contamination of the laundered items.
- The oxygen generator is positioned in an area where it is obstructed which could have an effect on the level of oxygen generated. Consideration should be given to wall mounting this unit.

The bacteriological 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.

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: Total Viable Counts (Contact dipslides) incubated at 37°C for 48 hours.

Hammersmith Hospital – Total Viable Count (TVCL Log)			
Date	Lab Reference No:	Sample Description	TVC (cm²)
9 th December 2008	HA1	Microfibre Mop Pre	Slight Growth 12 cfu/ cm ²
	HA2	Microfibre Cloth Pre	Slight Growth 12 cfu/ cm ²
	HA3	Microfibre Mop Post	No Growth
	HA4	Microfibre Mop Post	No Growth
	HA5	Microfibre Mop Post	No Growth
	HA6	Microfibre Mop Post	No Growth
	HA7	Microfibre Cloth Post	No Growth
	HA8	Microfibre Cloth Post	No Growth
	HA9	Microfibre Cloth Post	No Growth
	HA10	Microfibre Cloth Post	No Growth

Key VSG Very Slight Growth
Growth
Count

Heavy Heavy Growth

SG Slight Growth


cfu Colony Forming Units


Mod Moderate

TVC Total Viable

Table 2: Independent Microbiological Results Ex Microsearch Laboratories Ltd.

Microbiological Test Results Pre/Post OTEX Laundry Process (Cfu/g)										
Sample	Lab Ref No:	State	TVC	E.coli	Salmonella	S. Aureus	C.diff	MRSA	Yeasts	Moulds
Microfibre Mop	354	Pre	9.30E+07	7800	Neg	7.00E+04	90	2.30E+03	TNTC	4000
Microfibre Mop	357	Post	<1	<1	Neg	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Microfibre Cloth Blue	355	Pre	8.10E+09	1.90E+04	Neg	6.20E+06	300	1.70E+03	TNTC	9.10E+04
Microfibre Cloth Blue	358	Post	<1	<1	Neg	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Microfibre Cloth Red	356	Pre	4.10E+07	300	Neg	7.10E+06	1.20E+03	700	TNTC	3.20E+04
Microfibre Cloth Red	359	Post	<1	<1	Neg	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1

Pre 

Post 

Legend:

< = Less than.

NEG = Test Negative

Pos = Test Positive