



# The Real Cost of Ownership for Infection Prevention Technology

## Before You Purchase

In hospitals, cleaning technology complements the outcomes of manual cleaning and adds a layer of reliability, especially in hard-to-reach crevices or for critical areas. One study showed that after four rounds of manual cleaning and disinfection with a bleach solution, 25 percent of rooms were still contaminated with pathogens.

Protecta®, an environmental services (EVS) program from Sodexo Healthcare,

has proven to be an effective foundational program to combat hospital-acquired infections (HAIs). Data collection from 2016-2022 show hospitals that have implemented Protecta have experienced 11,623 avoided MRSA and *C. diff* infections and \$421+ million in cost savings from avoided infections. Cleaning technologies such as UV-C disinfection or hydrogen peroxide vapor can be included in your hospital's EVS program to help fight HAIs.



# 25%

of rooms were still contaminated with pathogens after **four rounds of manual cleaning and disinfection** with a bleach solution

# 34.83%

decrease in *C. diff* SIR at Protecta sites from 2018-2021

# 107+

hospitals served by Protecta across the US today



# PROTECTA®

## Costs Extend Beyond the Bottom Line

HAIs are expensive to treat after they occur. One HAI can cost a hospital up to \$45,000 in lost Medicare revenue, not to mention impacts to its community reputation. In fact, one small outbreak with a total of 40 cases cost one hospital over \$1 million. In this case, the saying that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure rings true, when you consider the investment in technology versus the cost to your reputation and your bottom line.

### Some things to consider:

- Cost is one aspect of a technology purchase to consider, but there is much more to evaluate than the price of the equipment itself. Taking into consideration the full spectrum of infection prevention nuances, time, productivity, and training will help your hospital understand the full price of owning the technology and make better informed decisions on whether it's right for you.
- Since UV-C light isn't able to break through biofilm, your EVS program still needs to include diligent manual cleaning with chemical disinfectants that can break through and eliminate pathogens. Otherwise, UV-C light will simply bounce over the pathogens within biofilm.
- Areas that are obstructed cannot be reached by the light, so the UV-C machine will require movement and several cycles to completely irradiate the room. It takes time to set up the room with technology, so compute the time needed to ensure hard-to-see areas are visible to be effectively cleaned.



## Types of Technology Available

When your hospital is considering a technology purchase, there are many options available, but identifying your hospital's goals will help you find the solution that you really need. In addition to decreasing costs by reducing HAI rates, the technological advancements can also improve productivity for EVS and clinical staff members. Disinfection adds a layer of reliability to manual cleaning, especially in areas such as ICUs, burn units and ambulatory units. Some of these solutions include:



### Hydrogen Peroxide Vapor

Sterilant eliminates viruses, spores, fungi, and bacteria in enclosed spaces including operating rooms, burn units and ICUs.



### UV-C Technology

UV-C technology is a chemical-free option proven to be 20X more effective than manual cleaning alone.



## Questions to Ask When Considering IP Technology Purchases

As you get closer to making your technology purchase decision, work with your infection preventionists to determine the needs of your specific hospital by asking:

- **What additional labor will be required to use and maintain the equipment?**
- **How many pieces of the equipment will we need to make an impact?**
- **What goals can be reached through this purchase?**
- **How will this purchase help transition some of our cleaning practices to be more environmentally friendly?**
- **In which units of the hospital is this technology needed most?**
- **What staff will need to be trained on using this technology?**

Successful infection preventionists are boldly choosing innovative EVS components, processes and solutions to arm their hospitals with solutions to keep HAIs at bay and improve their ability to care for patients. Technology is one component of a comprehensive approach to infection prevention that requires a diligent decision-making process.

Protecta® is a registered trademark of Sodexo, Inc. The information and concepts contained in this document are the proprietary property of Sodexo. They cannot be reproduced or utilized without permission. ©2024