

Contact Time Critical

THREE TO 10 MINUTES IS NOT PRACTICAL FOR PROPER DISINFECTION



When common infections become untreatable with antibiotics, prevention of transmission will be of even greater importance. Even now, these so-called “superbugs” are a serious and growing problem.

When selecting a disinfectant, the CDC recommends, *“Ideally product users should consider and use products that have a shortened contact time.”* As for the many products with a 10 minute contact time, the CDC states, *“Such a long contact time is not practical for disinfection of environmental surfaces in a health-care setting because most health-care facilities apply a disinfectant and allow it to dry (~1 minute).”*

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CDC RECOMMENDATION

Manufacturers of disinfectants agree. According to a white paper released by Ecolab, **CONTACT TIME AND DISINFECTANTS:**

“Ensuring that the disinfectant stays wet on surfaces for the required contact time is critical to achieving improved environmental outcomes.”

‘Every year 1.7 million Americans acquire an infection while in the hospital. The incidence of Clostridium difficile infection has surpassed Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus as the leading Hospital Acquired Infection (HAI). Environmental surfaces have been linked to the spread of pathogens within hospitals.’

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CONTACT TIME AND DISINFECTANTS | ECOLAB WHITE PAPER

“The user assumes liability for any injuries resulting from off-label use and is potentially subject to enforcement action under Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).”

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“Most dilutable, quaternary-based disinfectants (quats) currently available in the market are very effective at killing a broad range of microorganisms, and have a ten minute contact time. However, a single application of quat usually does not leave surfaces wet for ten minutes. Non-compliance with contact times may mean that surfaces are not being properly disinfected and that pathogens could survive even after application. In order to meet a contact time of ten minutes, additional applications of product are usually needed, thus reducing operational efficiency.”

“In some states auditing bodies such as the Joint Commission and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) are monitoring compliance with proper contact time.”

“The user assumes liability for any injuries resulting from off-label use and is potentially subject to enforcement action under Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).”

“Using a disinfectant with a shorter contact time can increase compliance with labeled contact times and can help improve operational efficiency by eliminating the need to re-wipe surfaces.”

Longer contact times increase exposure risks.

R-Water LLC, a Texas based WOSB, manufactures a wall-mount device that enables healthcare facilities to generate a nontoxic, one-step healthcare-grade cleaner disinfectant, (TK60) and a multi-surface cleaner (FC+) on-site, using only electricity, softened water, and pure salt.

With a one minute contact time, TK60 is 100% effective against MRSA, 99.9997% effective against C-diff spores, and approved by the FDA to be used on food contact surfaces.

The CDC recognizes, *“The concept of electrolyzing saline to create a disinfectant or antiseptics is appealing because the basic materials of saline and electricity are inexpensive and the end product (i.e., water) does not damage the environment.”*

TK60 is a water based disinfectant, composed mainly of >99% water and .02% HOCl. With a one minute contact time, TK60 is 100% effective against MRSA, 99.9997% effective against C-diff spores, and approved by the FDA to be used on food contact surfaces.

To learn more about the efficacy and regulatory classification of TK60, visit: www.r-water.com/library/microchem-white-paper.html