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Current approaches of disinfection in the hospital environment surfaces

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Hospital surfaces are often contaminated with hospital based pathogens including methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, vancomycin-resistant *enterococci*, *Clostridium difficile*, *Acinetobacter* spp. Although, aggressive cleaning protocols for controlling the spread of these pathogens are applied decontamination of patient rooms, this cleaning protocols are inadequate for removing bacterial contamination on the surfaces. In recent years researchers have focused on the elimination of important nosocomial pathogens which can not be removed from the hospital environment using of conventional cleaning, and disinfection procedures, and led to the outbreak in the hospitals. Non-touch techniques for terminal room disinfection such as ultraviolet or hydrogen peroxide systems, and antimicrobial-containing surfaces such as titanium dioxide, silver, copper are promising for reducing the healthcare-associated infections. Also last few years, researchers have studied on potential effects of the plasma (cold air atmospheric pressure plasma) to be used for isolated room decontamination while patients in the room without any toxic effects on patients. At this point, multi-drug resistant pathogens spread easily from patient to patient and may lead to the possibility of closing the unit by causing the epidemic. Although nurses and other health workers apply all infection prevention and control procedures at maximum level, many hospitals or units faced this problems. These methods for using in the hospital environmental surfaces' decontamination, which are still in the research phase, may solve this problem because of the target pathogens' reservoir.

Biography

Ayşe Akbiyik is a Research Assistant in Ege University Faculty of Nursing. Currently, she is a Master's degree PhD student at Department Fundamentals of Nursing in Nursing Faculty and Department Pharmaceutical Microbiology in Faculty of Pharmacy. She has been working on healthcare-associated infections, prevention and control of healthcare-associated infection.

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