

Journal of Hospital Infection

Reply to G.J. Hughes et al: Impact of cleaning and other interventions on the reduction of hospital-acquired Clostridium difficile infections in two hospitals in England assessed using a breakpoint model

--Manuscript Draft--

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To the Editor / Journal of Hospital Infection

Issy Les Moulineaux

January 2nd, 2014

Subject: Letter to the editor – Reply to G.J. Hughes *et al: Impact of cleaning and other interventions on the reduction of hospital-acquired Clostridium difficile infections in two hospitals in England assessed using a breakpoint model*

Dear Madam, Sir,

We have read with great interest the recent publication *Impact of cleaning and other interventions on the reduction of hospital-acquired Clostridium difficile infections in two hospitals in England assessed using a breakpoint model* by T.Y. Fu*, P. Gent, V. Kumar and hope you will accept to publish our response to this article.

All named authors have seen and agreed to the submitted version of the paper.

The material is original, unpublished and has not been submitted elsewhere.

Please note that I am presently employed by Advanced Sterilization Products, which develops and markets equipment for area decontamination.

This is not a randomized Controlled Trial and no ethical approval was needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Philippe DESTREZ'. It is written over a stylized, decorative flourish.

Philippe DESTREZ

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4 **Reply to G.J. Hughes *et al*: *Impact of cleaning and other interventions on the reduction of***
5 **hospital-acquired *Clostridium difficile* infections in two hospitals in England assessed using a**
6 **breakpoint model**

7
8 Author(s): Philippe DESTREZ
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11 Affiliations: Advanced Sterilization Products, Johnson and Johnson, Irvine, California.
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15 Address correspondence to Philippe DESTREZ, Advanced Sterilization Products, Johnson and
16 Johnson, 1 rue Camille Desmoulins, TSA 81002, 92787 Issy les Moulineaux cdx 9, France.
17 (pdestrez@its.jnj.com)
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19

20 **Keywords:**
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22 Hydrogen peroxide
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24 Deprox
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28 We read with great interest the recent article by G.J. Hughes *et al*: "*Impact of cleaning and other*
29 *interventions on the reduction of hospital-acquired *Clostridium difficile* infections in two hospitals*
30 *in England using a breakpoint model*". We are in full agreement with the authors who state that
31 reinforced environmental cleaning and disinfection, and in particular hydrogen peroxide
32 automated surface decontamination, contribute to improved surface safety and therefore a
33 reduction of HAI rates^{1,2,3}
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38 However, we have reason to believe the H₂O₂ surface decontamination system identified as
39 being used by one of the participating hospitals (Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge University
40 Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust) is unlikely to have been the Deprox system (Hygiene
41 Solutions), as stated in Table 1 of the article. We have based this on the following:
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45 (1) We are able to confirm that another system was in use at the hospital during the period
46 in question: the Sterinis/Sterusil system and its subsequent solution, now
47 commercialized as GLOSAIR™ 400 System by Advanced Sterilization Products (a
48 Johnson & Johnson company). Hygienics Biosecurity Limited (previous distributor of the
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56 1. M.E. Falagas, P.C. Thomaidis, I.K. Kotsantis, K. Sgouros, G. Samonis, D.E. Karageorgopoulos. Airborne hydrogen peroxide for disinfection of the
57 hospital environment and infection control: a systematic review. *Journal of Hospital Infection* July 2011, Vol. 78, Issue 3, 171-177

58 2. F. Barbut, PharmD, PhD; D. Menuet, BSc; M. Verachten, BSc; E. Girou, PharmD. Comparison of the Efficacy of a Hydrogen Peroxide Dry-Mist
59 Disinfection System and Sodium Hypochlorite Solution for Eradication of *Clostridium difficile* Spores. *Infection control and hospital epidemiology* June
60 2009, vol. 30, no. 6

61 3. S. Shapey, K. Machin, K. Levi, T.C. Boswell. Activity of a dry mist hydrogen peroxide system against environmental *Clostridium difficile*
62 contamination in elderly care wards. *Journal of Hospital Infection* October 2008, Vol. 70, Issue 2, 136-141

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4 Sterinis/Sterusil system) provided decontamination services at the time the data was
5 collected and as such has evidence to confirm the hospital was in receipt of these
6 services during this period. We presume this can be further corroborated by the journal
7 contacting: (i) the trust to access its accounting records for 2008/9, and (ii) Hygiene
8 Solutions to confirm it was not providing services to the trust at the time.
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14 (2) As we understand it, the two companies mentioned on the provider's website (bottom of
15 the page: <http://www.hygiene-solutions.co.uk/s22/Contact.htm>) were both established in
16 2010. Please see below the two companies and their respective company numbers, as
17 listed with Companies House (<http://www.companieshouse.gov.uk/>):
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19

20
21 Specialist Hygiene Solutions Limited: company number 07183575
22
23

24 Hygiene Solutions Limited: company number 07479344
25
26

27 We assume both authors and publisher of the article will be keen to ensure the accuracy of the
28 data used. Therefore we suggest this matter be further investigated and, if the details in the
29 article are found to be inaccurate, the matter be resolved by the publication of a correction. If
30 you require any further details please do not hesitate to contact us, we would be happy to
31 assist.
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Tom Lister | Hygiene Solutions

From: Rick Fentiman | Hygiene Solutions
Sent: 09 January 2014 12:41
To: Mark Fentiman | Hygiene Solutions; Tom Lister | Hygiene Solutions
Subject: FW: paper in Journal of Hospital Infection, July 2013
Attachments: JHI-D-14-00004.pdf

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Need to be aware and cautious on this one.

Regards,

Rick Fentiman *Product Manager | UK*

Telephone: (+44) 0845 270 6690

Email: rick.fentiman@hygienesolutionsuk.com

Website: www.hygiene-solutions.co.uk

Address: Maple House, Hamlin Way, King's Lynn, PE30 4NG, United Kingdom



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Specialist Hygiene Solutions Ltd, Maple House, Hamlin Way, King's Lynn PE30 4NG United Kingdom.

From: Brown, Nicholas [<mailto:nicholas.brown@addenbrookes.nhs.uk>]

Sent: 09 January 2014 12:13

To: Ayers, Robert; Rick Fentiman | Hygiene Solutions

Cc: Gareth Hughes

Subject: FW: paper in Journal of Hospital Infection, July 2013

Importance: High

Robbie/Rick,

Are you in a position to be able to respond to the letter from J&J about the use of their system in Addenbrooke's? Clearly, the company are wanting credit for the reduction in cases of C difficile if their system was in use at the time. We need to know which system was in use in the Trust and when.

We need to coordinate a response through Gareth Hughes, as corresponding author for the paper.

Regards,

Nick

-----Original Message-----

From: Gareth Hughes [<mailto:Gareth.Hughes@phe.gov.uk>]

Sent: 09 January 2014 11:23

To: Nicholas Brown; Brown, Nicholas; robert.ayres@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Subject: FW: paper in Journal of Hospital Infection, July 2013

Importance: High

Hi Nick and Robbie

I've received this from the Editor at JHI about our paper. There is a query about the decontamination system which was used at Addenbrookes and which we mentioned in the paper.

Would you be able to look into this and get back to me as soon as possible? We'll need to reply to the Editor pretty quickly.

Cheers

Gareth

From: Jenny Child [jhieditor@gmail.com]

Sent: 09 January 2014 11:01

To: Gareth Hughes

Subject: paper in Journal of Hospital Infection, July 2013

Dear Dr Hughes

I have received the attached letter from Johnson & Johnson, commenting on the paper that we published in JHI in July 2013 (Impact of cleaning and other interventions on the reduction of hospital-acquired *Clostridium difficile* infections in two hospitals in England assessed using a breakpoint model).

This is more than just a letter for publication; if Dr Destrez is right in his assertion, then we will need to publish an erratum.

Could you please have a look and reply to me directly to this e-mail address (not via Editorial Manager)?

I look forward to hearing from you,

with kind regards

Jenny Child

Dr Jenny Child MD FRCPath

Editor in Chief,

Journal of Hospital Infection

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