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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*  
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21       Keywords:  
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23            Hydrogen peroxide  
24            Deprox  
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27       We read with great interest the recent article by G.J. Hughes *et al: "Impact of cleaning and other*  
28       *interventions on the reduction of hospital-acquired Clostridium difficile infections in two hospitals*  
29       *in England using a breakpoint model"*. We are in full agreement with the authors who state that  
30       reinforced environmental cleaning and disinfection, and in particular hydrogen peroxide  
31       automated surface decontamination, contribute to improved surface safety and therefore a  
32       reduction of HAI rates<sup>1,2,3</sup>  
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39       However, we have reason to believe the H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> surface decontamination system identified as  
40       being used by one of the participating hospitals (Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge University  
41       Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust) is unlikely to have been the Deprox system (Hygiene  
42       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  
59       2. F. Barbut, PharmD, PhD; D. Menuet, BSc; M. Verachtert, BSc; E. Girou, PharmD. Comparison of the Efficacy of a Hydrogen Peroxide Dry-Mist  
60       Disinfection System and Sodium Hypochlorite Solution for Eradication of Clostridium difficile Spores. *Infection control and hospital epidemiology* June  
61       2009, Vol. 30, No. 6  
62       3. S. Shapey, K. Machin, K. Levi, T.C. Boswell. Activity of a dry mist hydrogen peroxide system against environmental Clostridium difficile  
63       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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20 Specialist Hygiene Solutions Limited: company number 07183575  
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23 Hygiene Solutions Limited: company number 07479344  
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26 We assume both authors and publisher of the article will be keen to ensure the accuracy of the  
27 data used. Therefore we suggest this matter be further investigated and, if the details in the  
28 article are found to be inaccurate, the matter be resolved by the publication of a correction. If  
29 you require any further details please do not hesitate to contact us, we would be happy to  
30 assist.  
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