



NEWS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hospital Patients Should Ask, “Who Was in the Room Before Me?”

Hamilton, OH – July 6, 2010 - Typically, patients admitted to a hospital room are most concerned about the doctors and nurses that will be attending to them.

However, a new report finds it may be more important to ask, ‘Who was here before me?’

According to Dr. John Boyce, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT, a patient admitted in the same hospital room previously occupied by a patient with [methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* \(MRSA\)](#) or [vancomycin-resistant](#)

[enterococci \(VRE\)](#) “has an increased risk of contracting these multi-drug resistant organisms.”

Further, acquiring one or both of these diseases is possible for up to two weeks after the infected person has left the room.

A crucial way the problem can be rectified, Dr. Boyce reports, is through more effective, hygienic cleaning, “but studies have shown [hospital] housekeepers wipe clean [only] about 50 percent of surfaces that require cleaning.”

Dr. Boyce suggests more thorough cleaning education and training is required in hospitals. He also believes that medical and other types of facilities should employ [adenosine triphosphate \(ATP\) bioluminescence](#) rapid monitoring systems to assess bacterial levels on surfaces.

With [ATP rapid monitoring systems](#), surfaces are sampled with a specialized swab. The swab is then placed into the rapid monitoring system and a digital readout reports the level of ATP detected on the test surface within about 15 seconds.

“Although ATP does not detect specific contaminants, it can be a warning contaminants might be present,” says John Richter, technical Director for [Kaivac, Inc.](#), which markets ATP systems. “Surfaces that are contaminated typically reveal high [ATP] readings.”

Richter also believes hospitals might want to re-evaluate their cleaning systems. “If only 50 percent of [potentially] contaminated

surfaces are wiped clean, then it is fairly obvious another type of cleaning method that is less dependent on hand wiping surfaces is called for.”

Source: *Medscape*, June 11, 2010

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About Kaivac, Inc.

Headquartered in Hamilton, Ohio, Kaivac, Inc. delivers complete science-based cleaning systems designed to produce healthy results and outcomes while raising the value of cleaning operations and the dignity of the worker. The originator of [No-Touch Cleaning](#)[®], Kaivac offers an integrated portfolio of environmentally friendly cleaning products designed to remove the maximum amount of soil and potentially harmful biopollutants in the most cost-effective manner possible. For more information, visit www.kaivac.com.

About No-Touch Cleaning[®]

Designed to remove the maximum amount of soil, bacteria, and other biopollution, Kaivac's patented No-Touch Cleaning systems combine an indoor pressure washer, a powerful wet vacuum and chemistry into an integrated system. Empowering workers to hygienically clean without touching contaminated surfaces, these

systems not only clean better, but also cut labor, chemical, and equipment costs while raising worker morale and image. In fact, studies show that Kaivac's No-Touch Cleaning systems are 60 times more effective in reducing bacterial contamination on tile and grout surfaces than mops, which are more likely to spread contaminants than remove them.

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