The process of implementation of antibacterial coatings in healthcare environments

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Prevention and control of healthcare-associated infections – HAI in Slovenian hospitals

Commission (service) for prevention and control of HAI - composed of specialists from different fields; medical doctor for prevention and control of HAI, nurse, sanitary engineer, microbiologist, epidemiologist, ...

- Epidemiological monitoring of HAI
- Education of the stuff on the prevention and control of HAI
- Preparation and updating of professional instructions for preventing and managing HAI
- Management and assistance in dealing with epidemics
- Counseling, assistance and support at the buying of equipment, materials used in diagnostics, therapeutic, nursing and other procedures.
- Providing relevant information regarding the prevention and management of HAI
- Carries out control regarding compliance of standards.
- Advices on the planning and execution of construction work at the hospital.

Areas (rooms) with different levels of risk for transfer of HAI - according to the risk level - appropriate strategies proposed, including cleaning procedures, antimicrobial coatings...
Technical guidelines for healthcare facilities: TSG – 12640 – 001: 2008 – include technical, numerical and other guidelines for planners, builders and users of healthcare facilities
All services and departments are included and described in following thematic chapters – description of activities, functional requirements, general requirements, residential and security requirements, installation systems....

Based on Slovenian legislation, European regulations from the filed of healthcare, Euro Code, British Standard, Health technical memorandum,....
- DNV-DS-HC102 Standard, Interpretive Guidelines and Surveyor Guidance – International Accreditation Requirements for Hospitals
- DNV-DS-HC401 - Standard for Managing Infection Risk
- International Accreditation Standards for Healthcare Organizations...
Potential new antimicrobial coatings would need to be compliant with all standards and guidelines.

EU accreditation evaluator:

- **economic aspect crucial** (specially in Slovenia) – if exceeds 10-20 % (depends on the country) of the price of established materials – not going to be approved!!!

- Antimicrobial coating should be placed on the appropriate and reasonable surfaces – where patients could come in constant contact with possible contaminants.

- Compatibility with already established cleaning methods necessary!!!