CLINICAL INTELLIGENCE FOR SUPPLY CHAIN LEADERSHIP

HEALTHCARE PURCHASING NEWS

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Diligent defense against disease

Avoiding the perils and pitfalls on the path to better outcomes

By Valerie J. Dimond - May 24, 2018 2009 0

When looking for ways to reduce healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) health-care providers must make infection prevention efforts a top priority every day and in every way. In some areas there's still plenty of room for improvement and in others it appears healthcare providers are taking the diligent steps necessary to fight against infection-causing microbes that are proliferating and getting tougher to beat.

As a result, effective tools and guidance are readily available to help facilities achieve their infection-reduction goals. HAIs may be a serious problem, but they can be tackled with thoughtful attention from every department and a shared willingness to discover and consistently address all potential sources of contamination with evidence-based practices and product solutions.

Scientific Air Management's portable air disinfection system

Air Care

Scientific Air Management's patented, lab-certified portable air filtration system is another UVC innovation that has helped healthcare facilities treat the air, making it less likely to spread germs. "This is reducing airborne pathogens in a way that's never been seen before," said Tom Derrick, Co-Founder & Senior Vice President OpenMarkets, an equipment research, quoting, budgeting and purchasing organization.

Mark Schwartz, CHFM, CHC, Director, Medical Center Facilities, University of Rochester Medical Center, NY, shares his experience with the system. "We have deployed these units in the Emergency Department and Trauma Bay to address outside effluents, airborne flu viruses and other pathogens," said Schwartz. "This effort was met with great praise from both our clinicians and patient population due to increased air quality. The use of the Scientific Air Management units was essential to minimize potential pathogens due to an extremely robust flu season and typically crowded conditions in the Emergency Department."

"What's unique and innovative here is that these devices kill the pathogens, as opposed to the more common filter systems," says Derrick, adding that the system's UVC light suppression kills airborne pathogens to the 99.9995% level. "HEPA filters don't demonstrate the same outcomes."

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