

ORAL PRESENTATION

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Effectiveness of a novel ozone and hydrogen peroxide gas-vapour system for the rapid high level disinfection of surfaces and healthcare spaces

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Introduction / objectives

Vapour based fumigant systems for disinfection of healthcare surfaces and spaces are an evolving technology. A new system that uses an ozone based process to create a highly reactive oxidative gas-vapour mixture that is noncorrosive was tested in vitro and in vivo for antimicrobial disinfection effectiveness.

Methods

Ozone gas at 80 parts per million (ppm) was combined with 1% stabilized hydrogen peroxide vapour at 80% relative humidity in a test chamber and upscaled to a 82 cubic meter room using 3.75% hydrogen peroxide at 30 minutes. Test organisms included methicillin resistant *S. aureus*, vancomycin resistant Enterococcus, *E. coli*, *P. aeruginosa*, and *C. difficile* spores dried onto stainless steel discs.

Results

The combination of 80 ppm ozone with 1% hydrogen peroxide vapour in the test chamber achieved a very high level of disinfection of at least 6 log₁₀ reduction of the bacteria and *C. difficile* spores tested on steel discs during a 15 minute exposure. The entire system was scalable such that it achieved the same high level of disinfection of an 81 cubic meter room in 30 minutes with 3.75% hydrogen peroxide and 80 PPM of ozone against MRSA and *C. difficile* spores.

Conclusion

The ozone and hydrogen peroxide gas-vapour mixture provides a very rapid and high level of disinfection of steel surfaces against important healthcare associated bacterial pathogens. The system is an advanced oxidative process providing a rapid and effective means to disinfect healthcare surfaces and spaces to a very high level, particularly against *C. difficile* spores.

Disclosure of interest

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