

REACH: RESEARCHING EFFECTIVE APPROACHES TO CLEANING IN HOSPITALS

A randomised controlled study of the effectiveness of a cleaning bundle intervention to reduce healthcare associated infections in eleven Australian hospitals 2016-2017

The REACH study is funded by an NHMRC partnership grant (GNT1076006) and is led by Queensland University of Technology (QUT) and Wesley Medical Research in collaboration with industry, policy and professional partners.

Contamination of the patient environment in the health care setting is linked to the risk of health care associated infections (HAIs)¹, with around 200,000 HAIs in Australian acute healthcare facilities each year¹.

“ Hospital cleaning is usually taken for granted but it is invaluable in preventing hospital acquired infections ”

Prof. Christian Gericke, Chief-Investigator

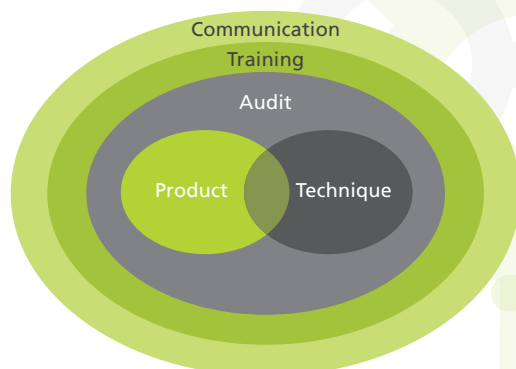
The REACH study aims to evaluate the impact of a new ‘bundle’ approach to hospital cleaning on the transmission of healthcare associated infections (HAIs) in hospitals. In 2016-2017, eleven major hospitals will each receive tailored training and support as part of a stepped wedge randomised controlled trial, to implement and evaluate the cleaning bundle intervention.

“ Cleaners play such an important role in hospitals, and we see this project as empowering them with more knowledge ”

Dr Lisa Hall, Chief-Investigator

The Cleaning Bundle Intervention

The REACH study cleaning bundle comprises five interdependent components:



INDUSTRY PARTNERS:

Kimberly-Clark Professional
Ecolab
Whiteley Corporation

PROFESSIONAL PARTNERS:

Australasian College of Infection
Prevention and Control (ACIPC)
Australasian Society of Infectious
Diseases (ASID)
Health Services Union (HSU)

POLICY PARTNERS:

Australian Private Hospitals Association
(APHA)
Deeble Institute, Australian Healthcare
and Hospitals Association (AHHA)

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1. NHMRC. Australian Guidelines for the Prevention & Control of Infection in Healthcare. Canberra: Commonwealth of Australia; 2010.