

# Frequently Asked Questions

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## What is MicrobeCare™?

MicrobeCare™ is an antimicrobial with unique bonding technology that is odorless, colorless, non-leaching, long-lasting and effective against bacteria, viruses, fungi, algae and yeast.

MicrobeCare™ is registered with the FDA and EPA as a safe and effective antimicrobial that will help reduce the spread of infection and cross communication of dangerous microorganisms on surfaces to which it is appropriately applied.

## What is an antimicrobial?

An antimicrobial is any substance which kills or inhibits the growth of microorganisms by suppressing microorganism reproduction. In contrast to antibacterial agents, antimicrobial substances offer a greater level of protection.

Their broad-spectrum performance makes them perfect for use in hygiene critical environments such as schools, hospitals, medical facilities, commercial buildings, and commercial kitchens.

## How does MicrobeCare™ work?

MicrobeCare™ has a mechanical mode of action, quickly eliminating microorganisms as they land on treated surfaces.

When microbes come into contact with a treated surface, MicrobeCare™ penetrates the cell wall and disrupts the cell, making the microorganism unable to grow and reproduce. Other antimicrobials work by poisoning the cell which can take up to 24 hours.

## What else makes MicrobeCare™ unique?

MicrobeCare™ uses a molecular bond to hold the antimicrobial to applied surfaces, thus retaining its full antimicrobial strength where it is applied. This microbe-hostile environment provides a long-lasting base layer of protection shown to eliminate >99.99% of microorganisms on surfaces quickly.

By continually combating and neutralizing microbial threats before they have an opportunity to spread, the protection of MicrobeCare™ persists even in the absence of good cleaning or disinfecting.

## **What is MicrobeCare™ effective against?**

MicrobeCare™ has been shown to be effective against gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria, viruses, fungi, algae, and yeast. This includes microorganisms such as MRSA, HIV, E. coli, Influenza A virus H1N1 and many others.

Please contact your MicrobeCare™ specialist for a complete list of microorganisms MicrobeCare™ has been tested against.

## **How do I know MicrobeCare™ is safe?**

MicrobeCare™ is guaranteed non-toxic and has obtained United States EPA and FDA approvals.

MicrobeCare™ has been tested for biocompatibility such as skin sensitivity, cytotoxicity and blood compatibility and because it is non-dispersive or non-leaching MicrobeCare™ will not degrade from the product surface leaving it unprotected.

MicrobeCare™ has been successfully integrated into the material of FDA Class 1, 2 and 3 medical devices such as stethoscopes and infusion pumps, intravenous catheters, hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis catheters, and wound drains. Risk assessments by independent scientific bodies constantly reconfirm the safety and effectiveness of the antimicrobial additives of MicrobeCare™.

## **How do I know MicrobeCare™ is effective?**

Measuring the effectiveness of MicrobeCare™ to a treated surface can be accomplished via an ATP Meter. An ATP Meter measures ATP (adenosine triphosphate) which is the energy molecule found in all organic material, including bacteria and human tissues, making it a perfect indicator when trying to determine if an environmental surface is clean or not. It is common for hospitals to use ATP meters to verify the cleanliness of sterilized surgical instruments, patient rooms or a surgical suite.

Your MicrobeCare™ specialist is trained in the proper use of this device and can provide the service of periodically monitoring the ongoing effectiveness of your MicrobeCare™ application.

## **How long does an application of MicrobeCare™ last?**

The unique patented properties of MicrobeCare™ create a permanent bond to the surface it is appropriately applied to so it will not wash off or be removed by cleaning solvents. The antimicrobial protection from MicrobeCare™ is designed to function throughout the useful life of the product.

## **Why is proper application so important?**

Proper application of MicrobeCare™ insures 100% coverage of all areas including hard to reach surfaces. Your MicrobeCare™ Specialist utilizes the latest state-of-the-art technology in electrostatic sprayers that have been tested for their effectiveness in applying MicrobeCare™.

## **What is an Electrostatic Sprayer?**

While MicrobeCare™ is effective when applied using a variety of application methods including wiping with a treated damp cloth or via a hand pump sprayer, reducing human error during the application process is critical for complete protection. For larger applications, the most complete and effective method is via an electrostatic sprayer to ensure total coverage.

Electrostatic spraying is an application process of spraying an electrostatically charged mist onto objects and surfaces. The spray is atomized by an electrode creating a negative charge to the mist containing MicrobeCare™. The mist then attracted to the positive charge and aggressively adheres to any surface it comes close to even if the spray is not pointed directly at an object.

## **Do I still need to clean surfaces that have been treated with MicrobeCare™?**

MicrobeCare™ is not a replacement for routine cleaning. Gross contamination of surfaces (spills, high traffic activity, etc.) will over time, impact the effectiveness of the MicrobeCare™ treatment.

Routine cleaning for gross contamination can be done with anything from mild soap and water to disinfectants. Most disinfectants have been approved for use on surfaces treated with MicrobeCare™, but please consult your MicrobeCare™ specialist for the approved list of disinfectants.

## **Will regular cleaning of surfaces treated with MicrobeCare™ reduce the effectiveness of the treatment?**

MicrobeCare™ has been shown to preserve its >4 log reduction even after 1200 cleaning cycles with hospital grade disinfectant.