
Antimicrobial Copper Touch Surfaces: A new tool for Infection Control and Prevention

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Project Engineer
Copper Development Association

The Science Behind the Technology Digital Summit
Infection Control Today



**Copper Development
Association Inc.**
Copper Alliance

Antimicrobial
Copper



Agenda

- The need for antimicrobial surfaces
- Antimicrobial efficacy of copper touch surfaces
- Products that incorporate copper touch surfaces
- Clinical testing

Antimicrobial Copper touch surfaces offer a powerful new **infection-prevention tool**. They **work 24/7** to eliminate the bacteria that cause healthcare-acquired infections **without staff behavioral changes**. They are a **one-time cost** that provide long-term benefits.

Copper Development Association

- Not-for-profit trade association
- Develop new uses for copper and it's alloys
- Provide education and training to end-users
- www.Copper.org, www.AntimicrobialCopper.com



**Copper Development
Association Inc.**
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The Need for Antimicrobial Surfaces

The built environment is a source of pathogens

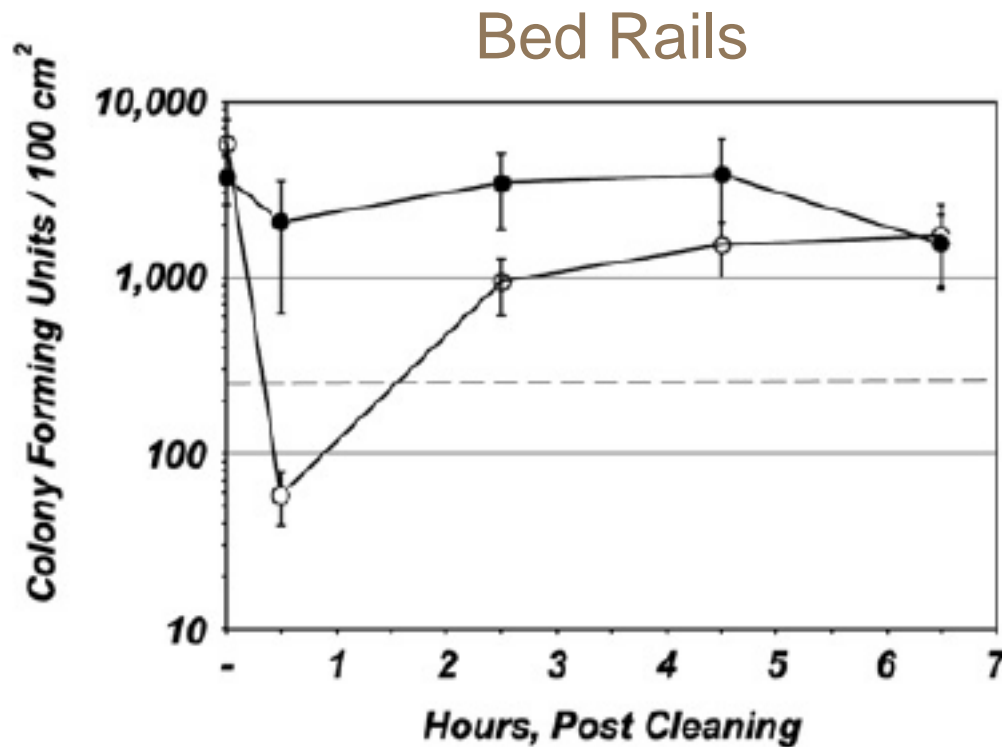
Total bacteria count per 100 cm² (n = 668 rooms)



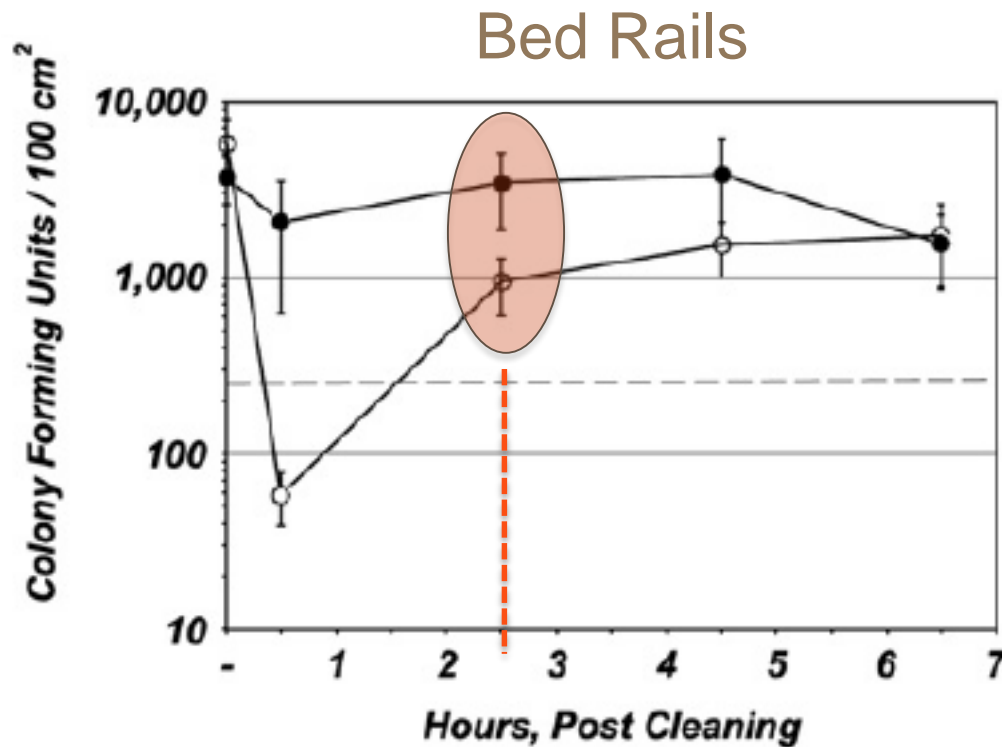
Good hygienic practices are essential – but the benefit is NOT CONTINUOUS



Surfaces are quickly re-contaminated after cleaning



Surfaces are quickly re-contaminated after cleaning

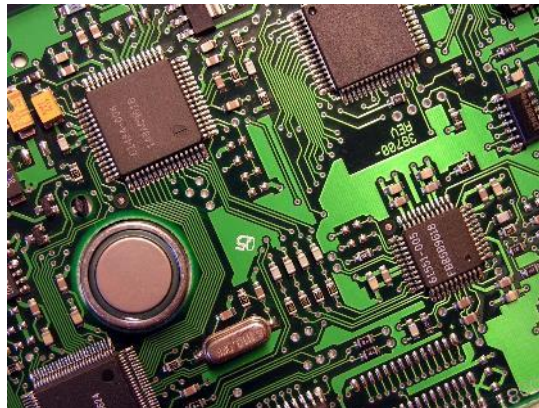
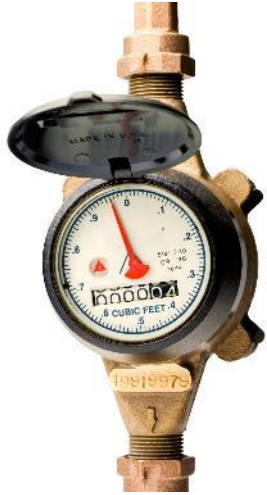


Copper is an inherently antimicrobial element, civilizations have benefited from these properties for centuries

Long before the germ theory of disease was developed, civilizations used copper to kill disease-causing organisms.



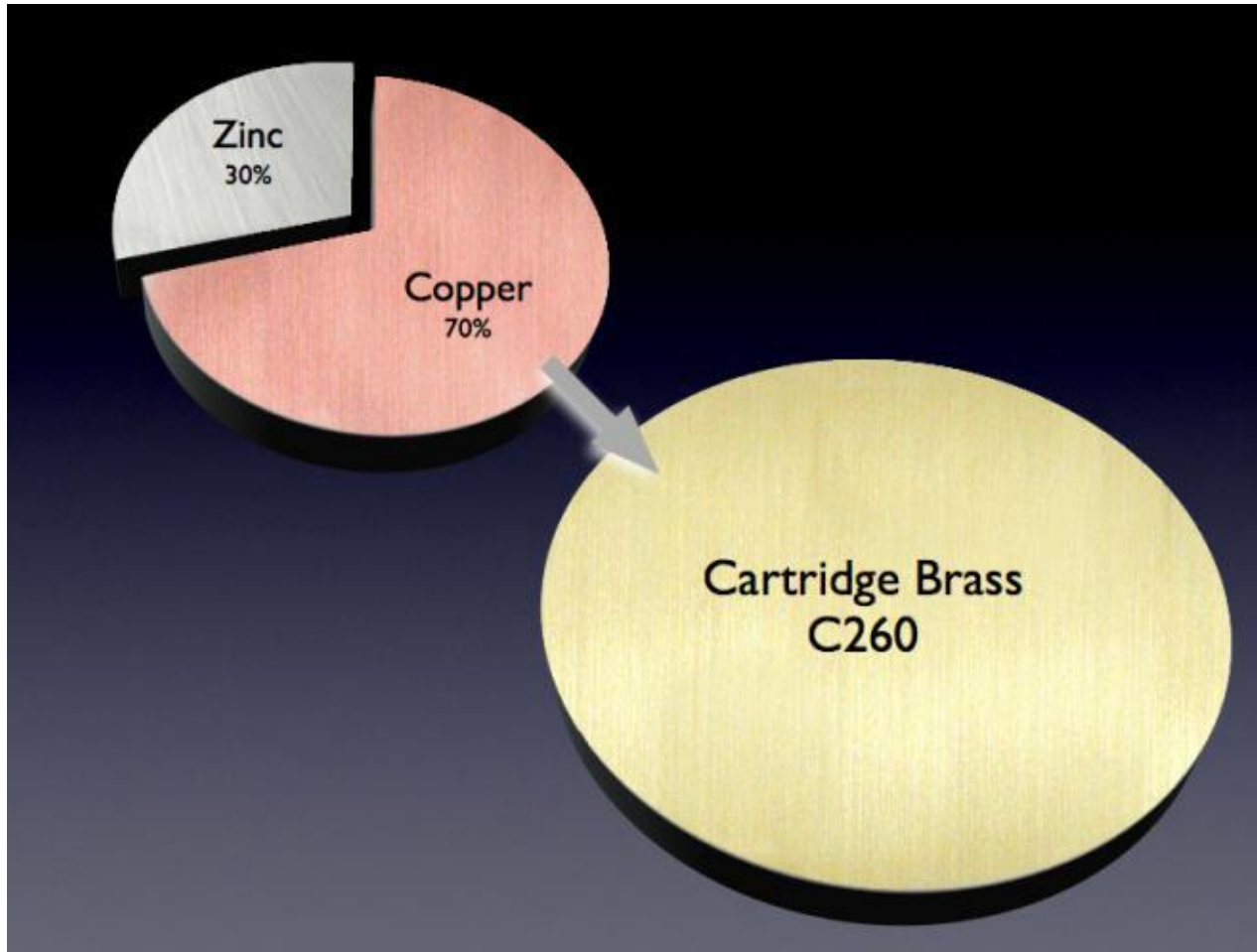
Copper is the third most important group of commercial metals behind iron/steel and aluminum



U.S. coinage are made of copper alloys



Copper Alloys



Antimicrobial Efficacy of Copper Alloys

Copper is inherently antimicrobial, civilizations have benefited from these properties for centuries

Long before the germ theory of disease was developed, civilizations used copper to kill disease-causing organisms.

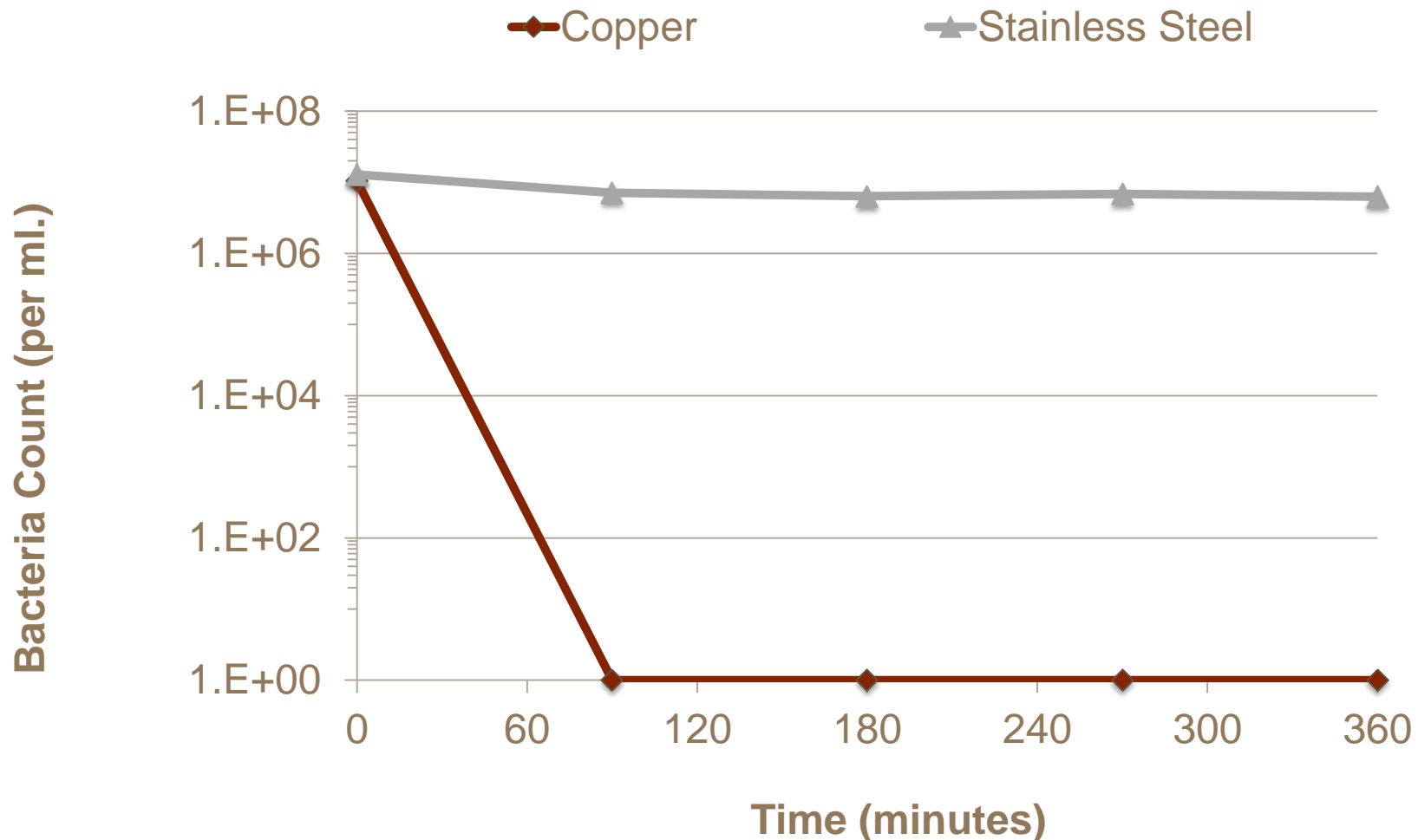


Antimicrobial Copper touch surfaces have broad spectrum antimicrobial efficacy

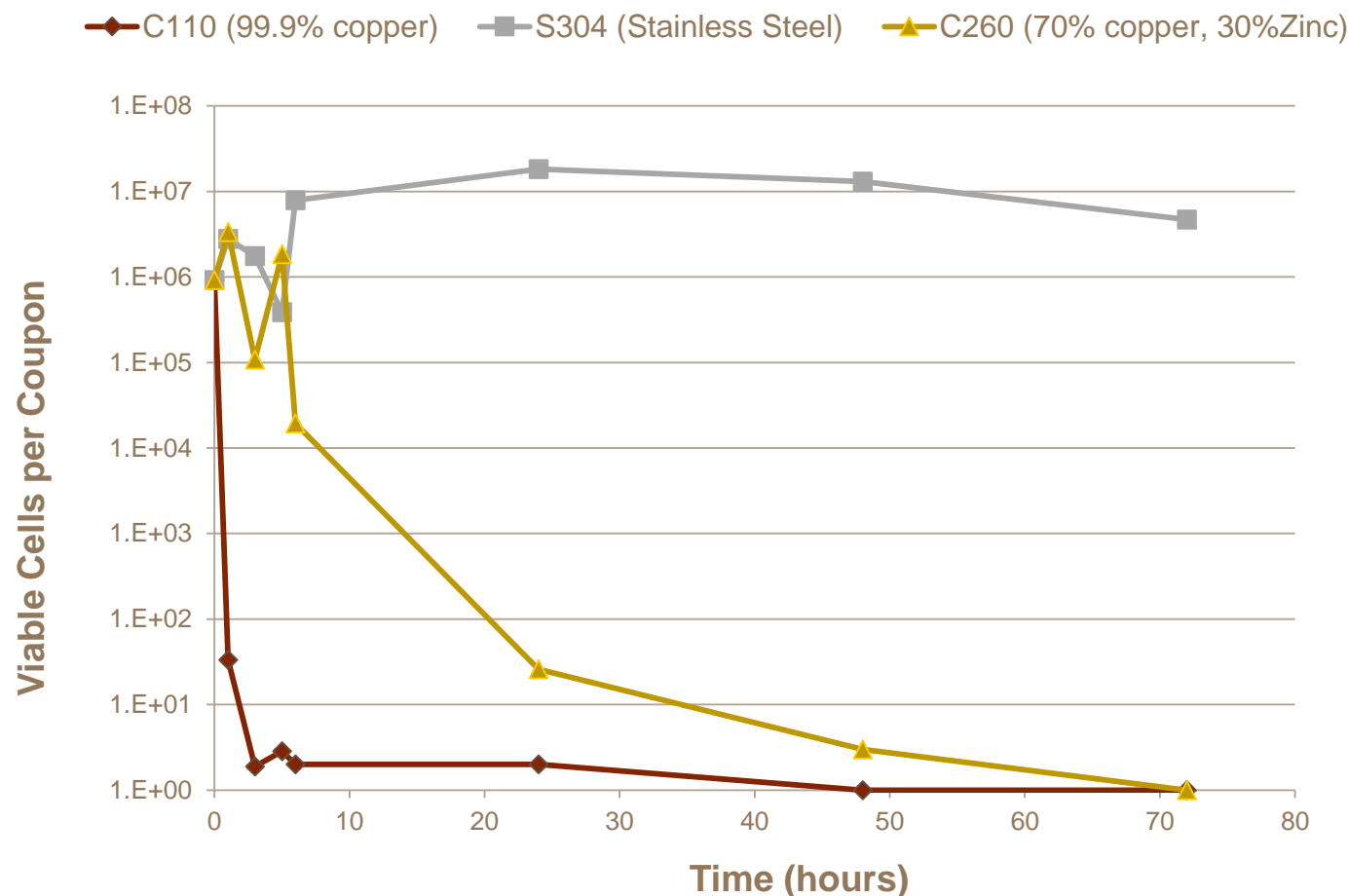
- ***Clostridium difficile***
- Carbapenemase-producing gram negatives including **CRE**
- Vancomycin-resistant enterococcus
- Norovirus
- *Acinetobacter baumannii*
- *Fusarium solani*
- Rotavirus
- Rhinovirus
- *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*
- **Influenza A (including H1N1)**
- **MRSA**
- *Aspergillus fumigatus*
- NDM-1 producing *K. pneumoniae*
- *Salmonella enteric*
- *Salmonella Typhi*
- *Vibrio cholerae*
- *Campylobacter jejuni*
- *Penicillium chrysogenum*
- *Candida albicans*

And more...

Antimicrobial Copper kills Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA)



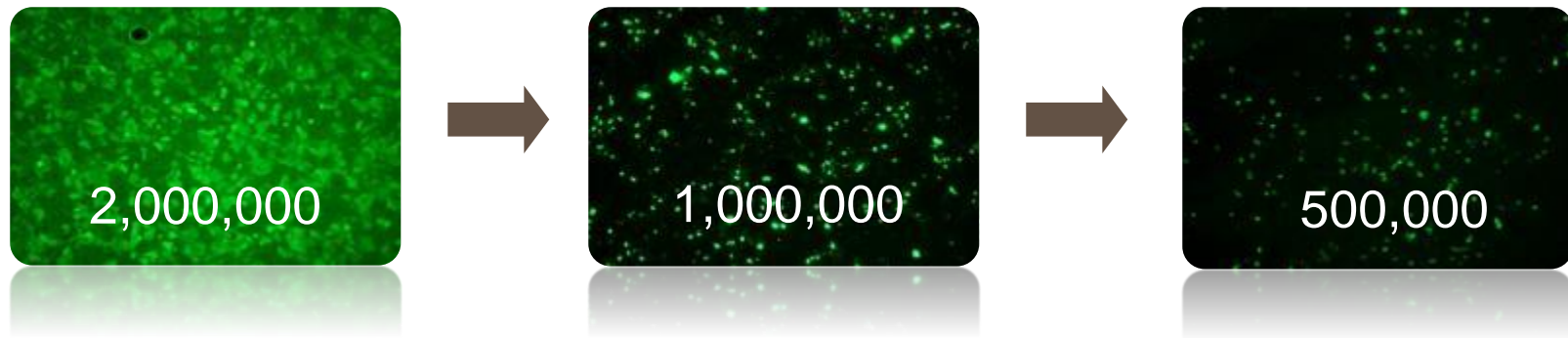
Antimicrobial Copper kills *Clostridium Difficile* spores



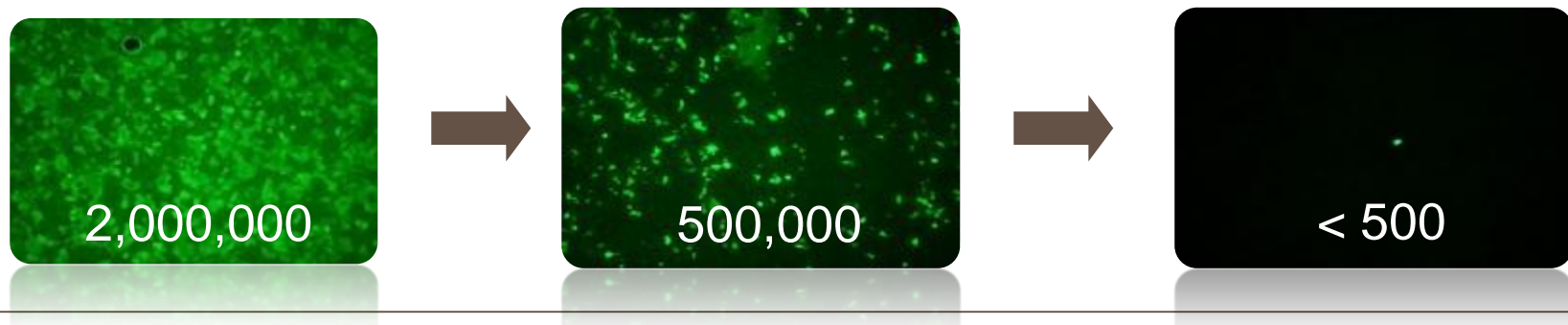
WEAVER, et al. 2008. Survival of *Clostridium difficile* on copper and steel: futuristic options for hospital hygiene. J Hosp Infect. 68, 145-51.

Antimicrobial Copper surfaces inactivate Influenza A

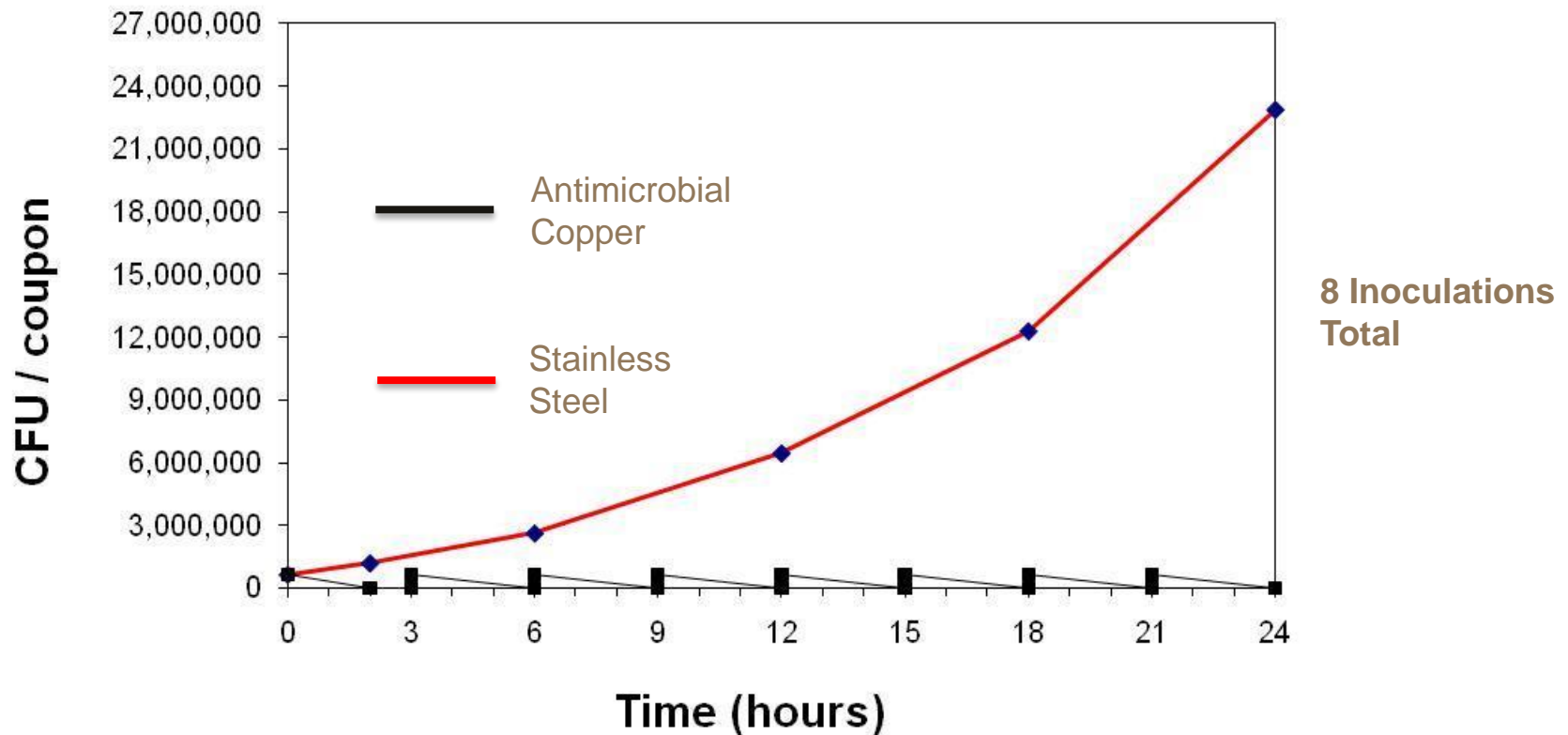
Stainless Steel Samples: 6 hours



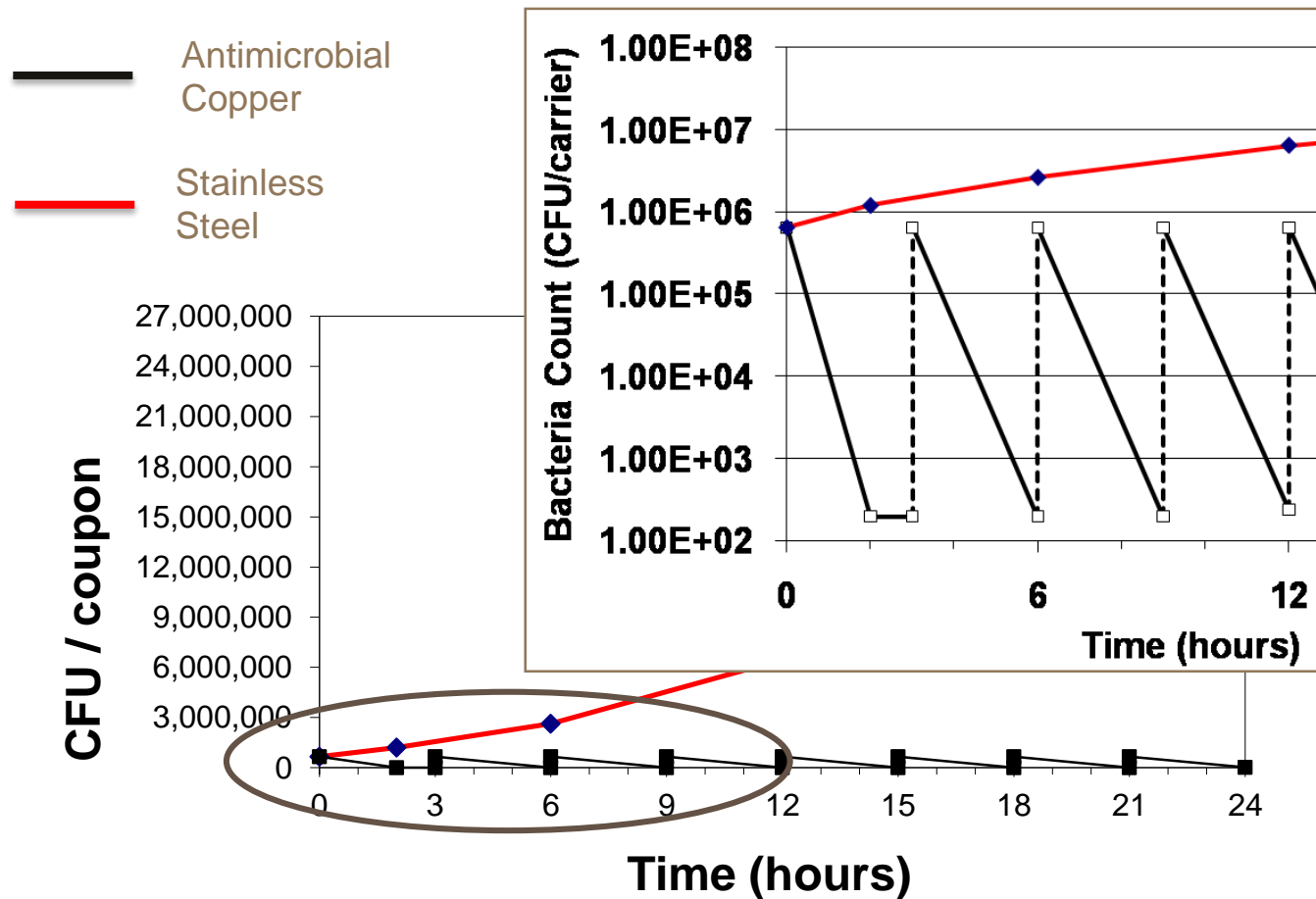
Antimicrobial Copper (99.9%) Samples: 6 hours



Copper surfaces continuously kill MRSA and other bacteria, after repeated contaminations between routine cleaning



Copper surfaces continuously kill MRSA and other bacteria, even after repeated contaminations



Antimicrobial Copper's Efficacy vs MRSA

Antimicrobial Copper has been approved by the EPA to make public health claims against 6 infectious bacteria

Staphylococcus aureus

Enterobacter aerogenes

Escherichia coli O157:H7

Pseudomonas aeruginosa

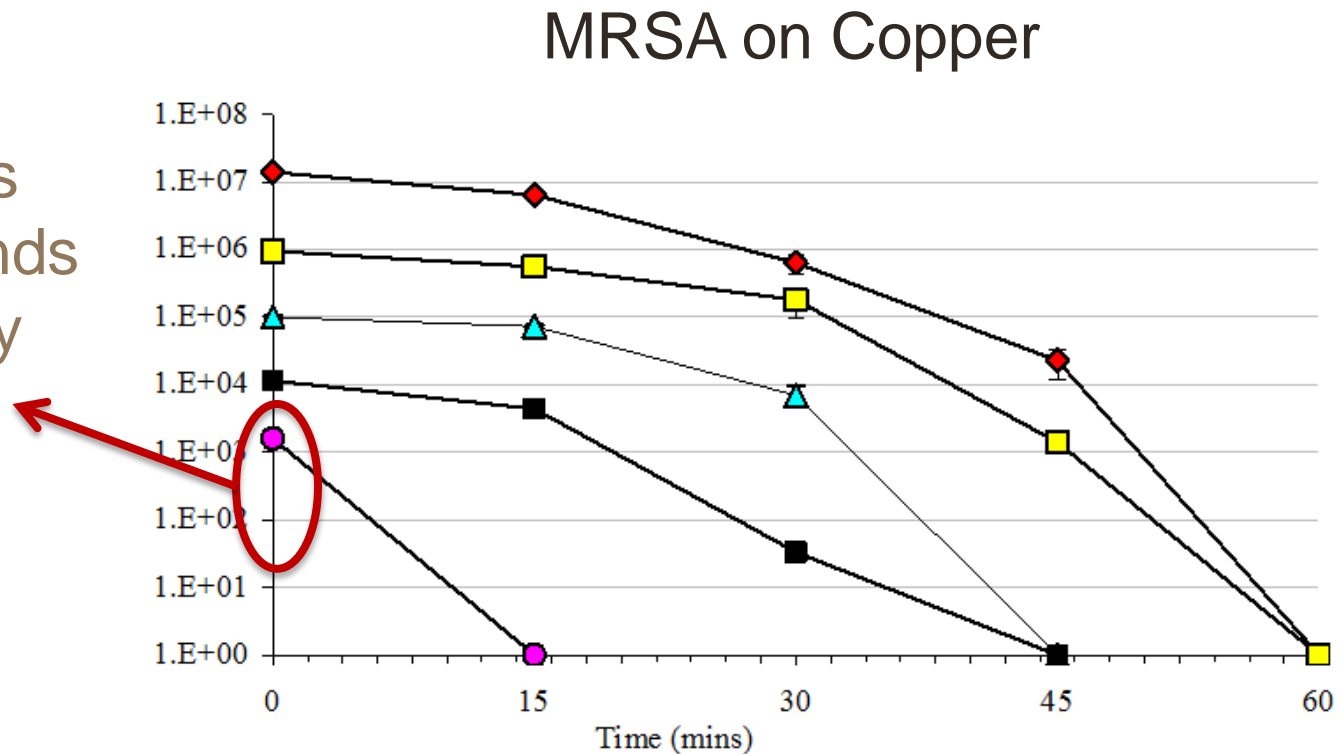
Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA)

Vancomycin-Resistant *Enterococcus faecalis* (VRE)

EPA Registration No. 82012-1 to 6

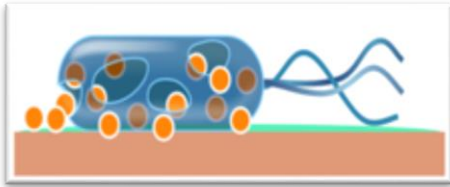
Smaller amounts of bacteria are killed much faster on Antimicrobial Copper

Typical levels found on hands and everyday objects

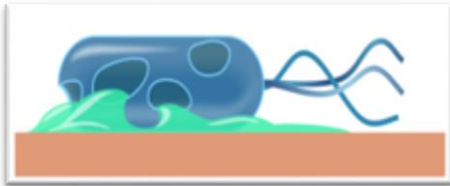


How does copper kill bacteria? Several theories have been confirmed, others are being investigated

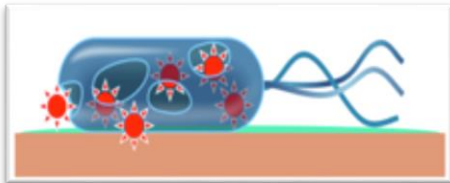
One proven theory



A: Copper ions on the surface are recognized as an essential nutrient, and enter the cell



B: A lethal dose of copper ions interferes with normal cell functions and membrane integrity



C: Copper ions impede cell respiration/metabolism, sometimes causing DNA damage

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Journal of Hospital Infection (2006) 63, 289–297



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Potential use of copper surfaces to reduce survival of epidemic meticillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* in the healthcare environment

J.O.

INFECTION CONTROL AND HOSPITAL EPIDEMIOLOGY MAY 2013, VOL. 34, NO. 5

CONCISE COMMUNICATION

Copper Continuously Limits the Concentration of Bacteria Resident on Bed Rails within the Intensive Care Unit

Michael G. Schmidt, PhD;¹ Hubert H. Attaway III, Sarah E. Fairey, BS;¹ Lisa L. Steed, PhD;² Harold T. Michels, PhD;³ Cassandra D. Salgado, MD;¹

lients, HCWs, and visitors, are one of the most frequently touched items in the patient care environment. In this study, we quantitatively assessed the BB present on bed rails to



journals.asm.org

Sustained Reduction of Microbial Burden on Common Hospital Surfaces through Introduction of Copper

Michael G. Schmidt,¹ Susan Singh,⁴ L.

Medica University of Jersey, USA⁵; Ralph Division of Infectious Carolina, USA⁶; Med Medicine of Yeshiva Association, New York

INFECTION CONTROL AND HOSPITAL EPIDEMIOLOGY MAY 2013, VOL. 34, NO. 5

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Copper Surfaces Reduce the Rate of Healthcare-Acquired Infections in the Intensive Care Unit

Cassandra D. Salgado, MD;¹ Kent A. Sepkowitz, MD;¹ Joseph I. John, MD;³ J. Robert Cantey, MD;¹ Hubert H. Attaway, MS;⁴ Katherine D. Freeman, DrPH;⁵ Peter A. Sharpe, MBA;⁶ Harold T. Michels, PhD;⁷ Michael G. Schmidt, PhD¹

Available Antimicrobial Copper Products

Sinks

Hand wash stations, scrub sinks



Manufacturers: Just Manufacturing, Elkay Commercial Products, MD-Cu29

IV Poles



Manufacturers: Pedigo, Midbrook Medical

Patient Transport



Manufacturer: Pedigo

Railings and Grab Bars



Manufacturers: Wagner Companies, Rocky Mountain Hardware, CuSalus by Colonial Bronze

Building Products



Manufacturers: Arrowhart, CuSalus by Colonial Bronze, Rocky Mountain Hardware, MD-Cu29

Work Surfaces



Manufacturers: Midbrook Medical, CuSalus by Colonial Bronze,

Work Surfaces



Manufacturers: Midbrook Medical

Building Hardware



Manufacturers: Rocky Mountain Hardware, CuSalus by Colonial Bronze, Trimco

Cabinet Hardware



Manufacturers: CuSalus by
Colonial Bronze, Rocky Mountain
Hardware, MD-Cu29

Cabinet Hardware



Manufacturers: CuSalus by
Colonial Bronze, Rocky Mountain
Hardware, MD-Cu29

Equipment/Cart Handles



Manufacturers: CuSalus by
Colonial Bronze

Keyboards/Mice



Manufacturers: Operator Interface Technology

Door Access Device



Manufacturer: The Copper Shark

Check back often for additional product categories



AntimicrobialCopper.com

Infection prevention is a multifaceted challenge



Infection prevention is a multifaceted challenge



Copper will work in the background, 24/7, - install it and forget it!

Clinical Testing of Antimicrobial Copper

Multi-site clinical trial tested the impact of Antimicrobial Copper on patient health

- Funded by the Department of Defense
- CDA provided materials procurement support
- Trial at three sites:



Numerous surfaces were tested, but due to budget constraints only 6 were selected

Surfaces Selected

Bed rails

IV stands

Over-bed tray tables

Data input devices (mouse, laptop, touch screen monitor bezel)

Visitor's chair (arms)

Nurses' call device

Surfaces Screened but not Selected

Laundry hamper

Door handles

Drawer pulls

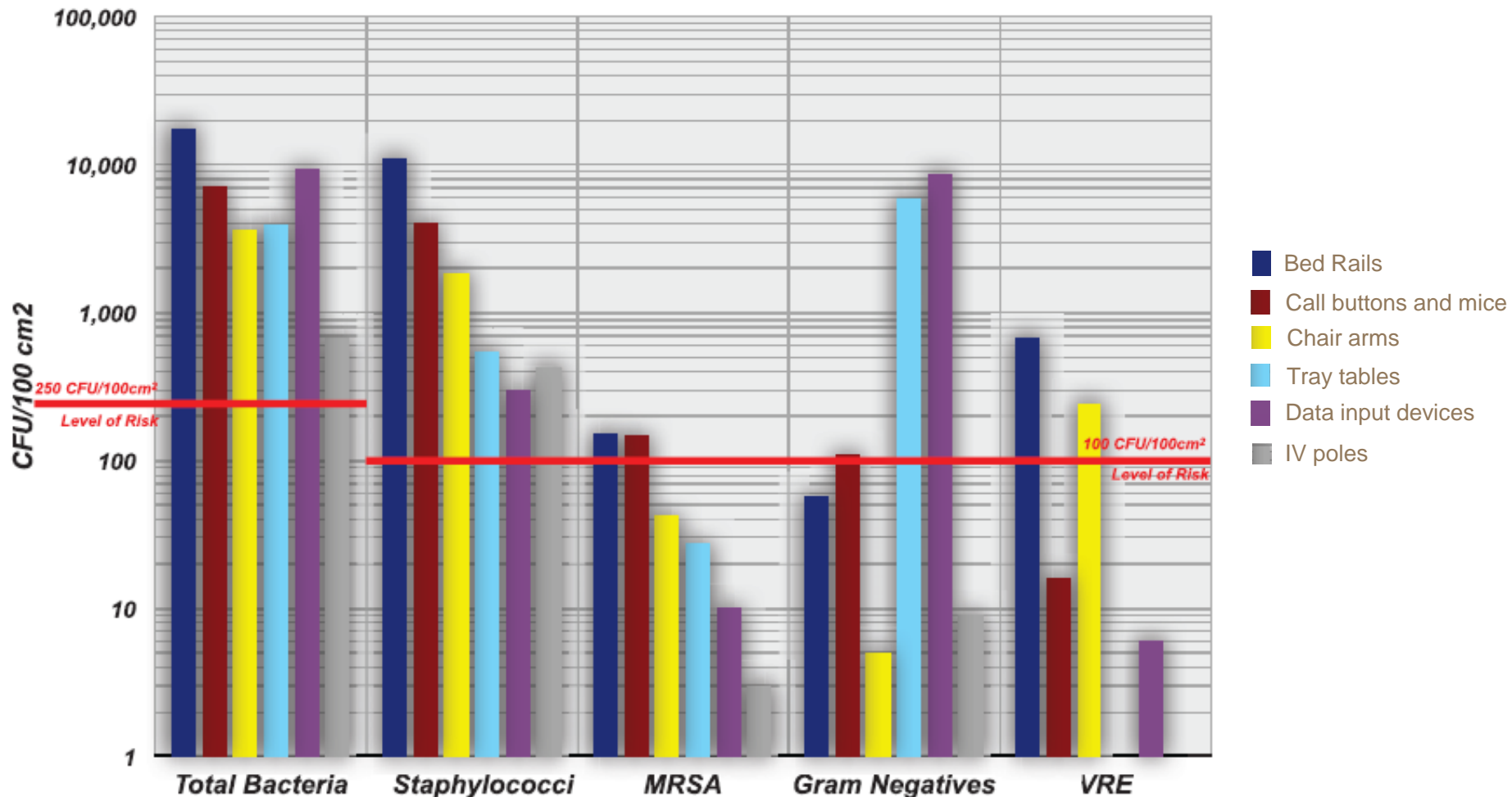
Faucet handles

Keyboards

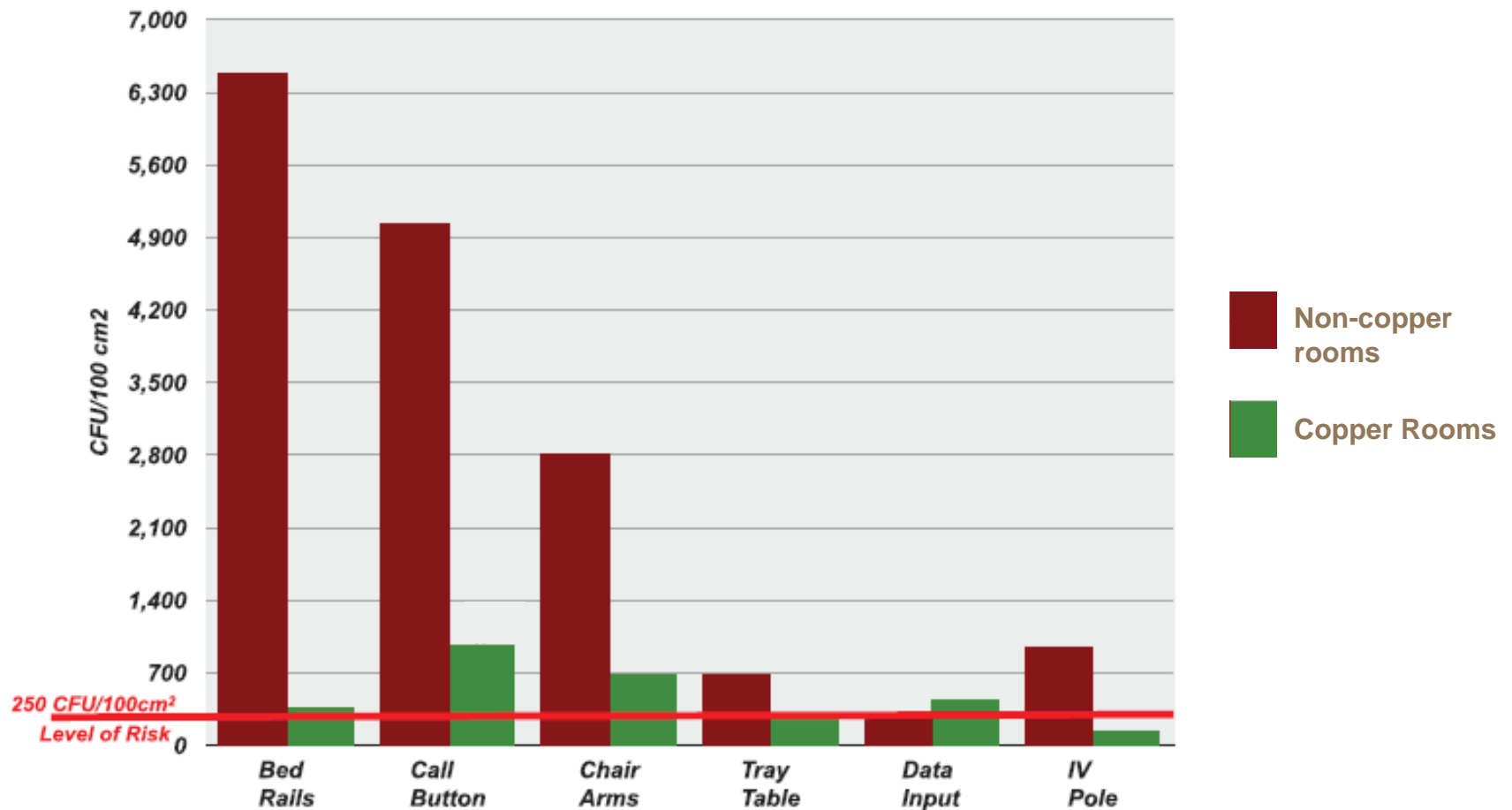
Soap/EtOH dispenser

End table surface

Bed rails, data input devices, call buttons, - dirtiest touch surfaces in ICU rooms



Total bacteria was reduced by 83% in rooms with copper touch surfaces



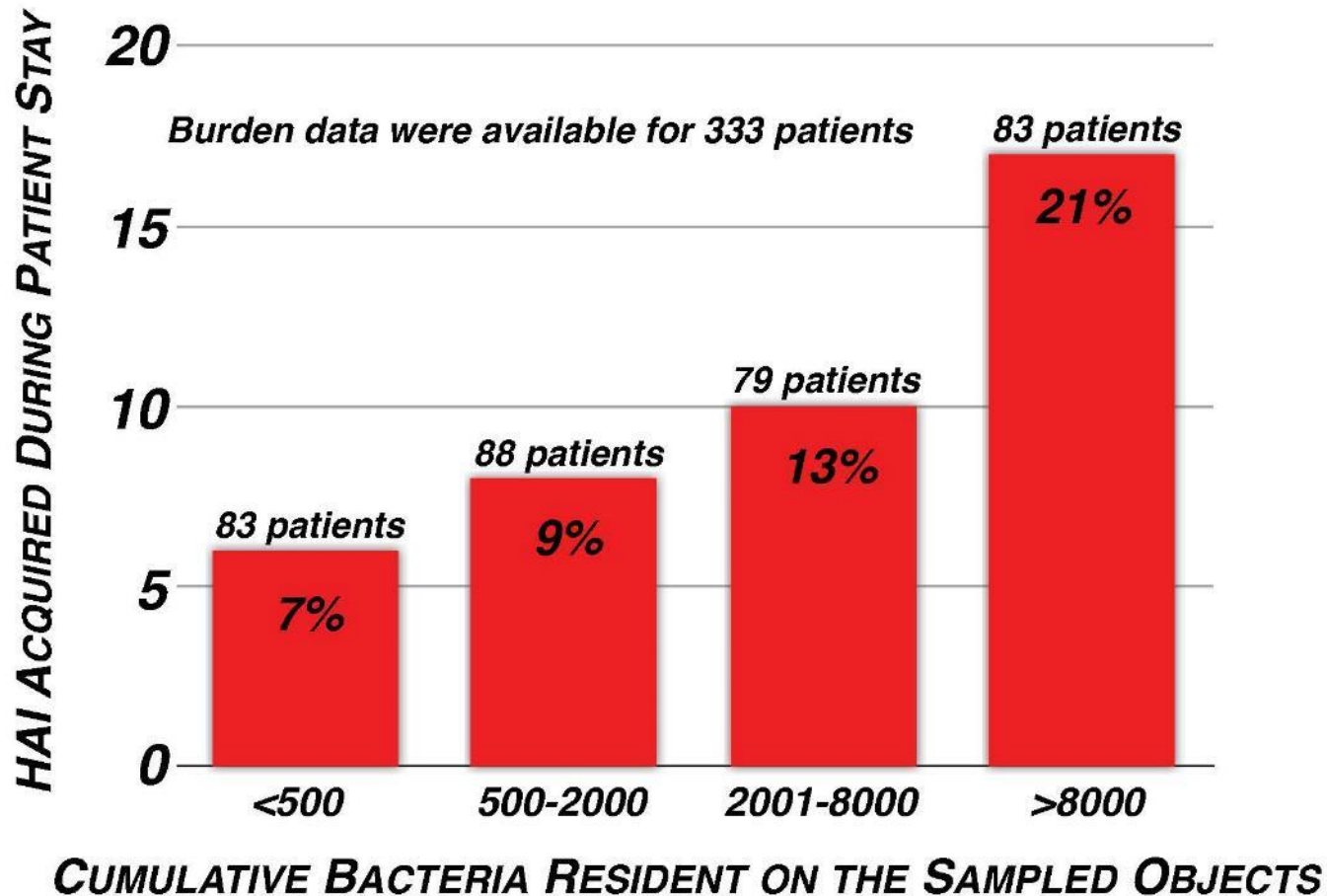
Use of copper touch surfaces decreased the risk of HAI by 58%

Copper room infection rate: 3.4%

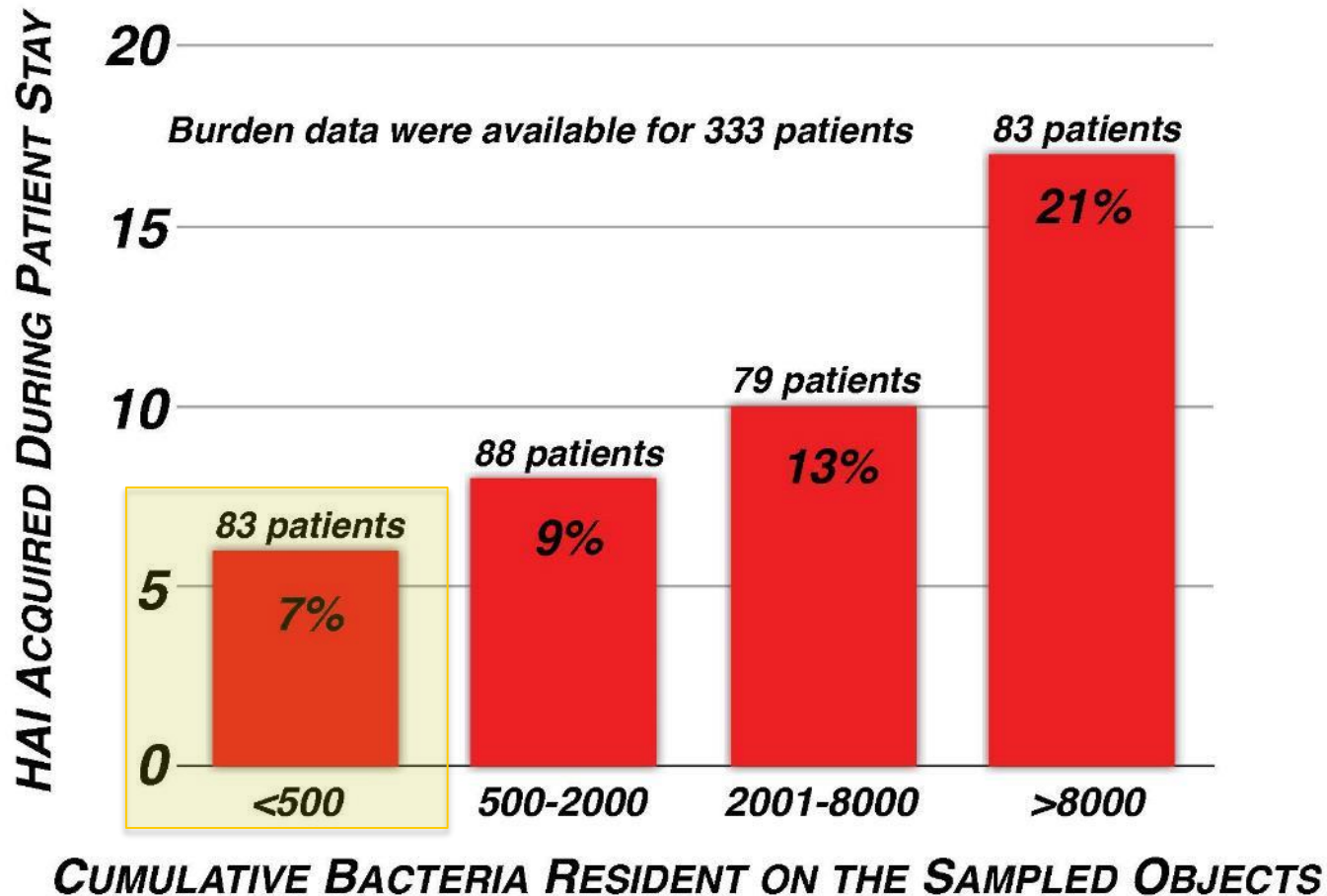
Control infection rate: 8.1%

58% reduction, ($P=0.013$, $N=614$)

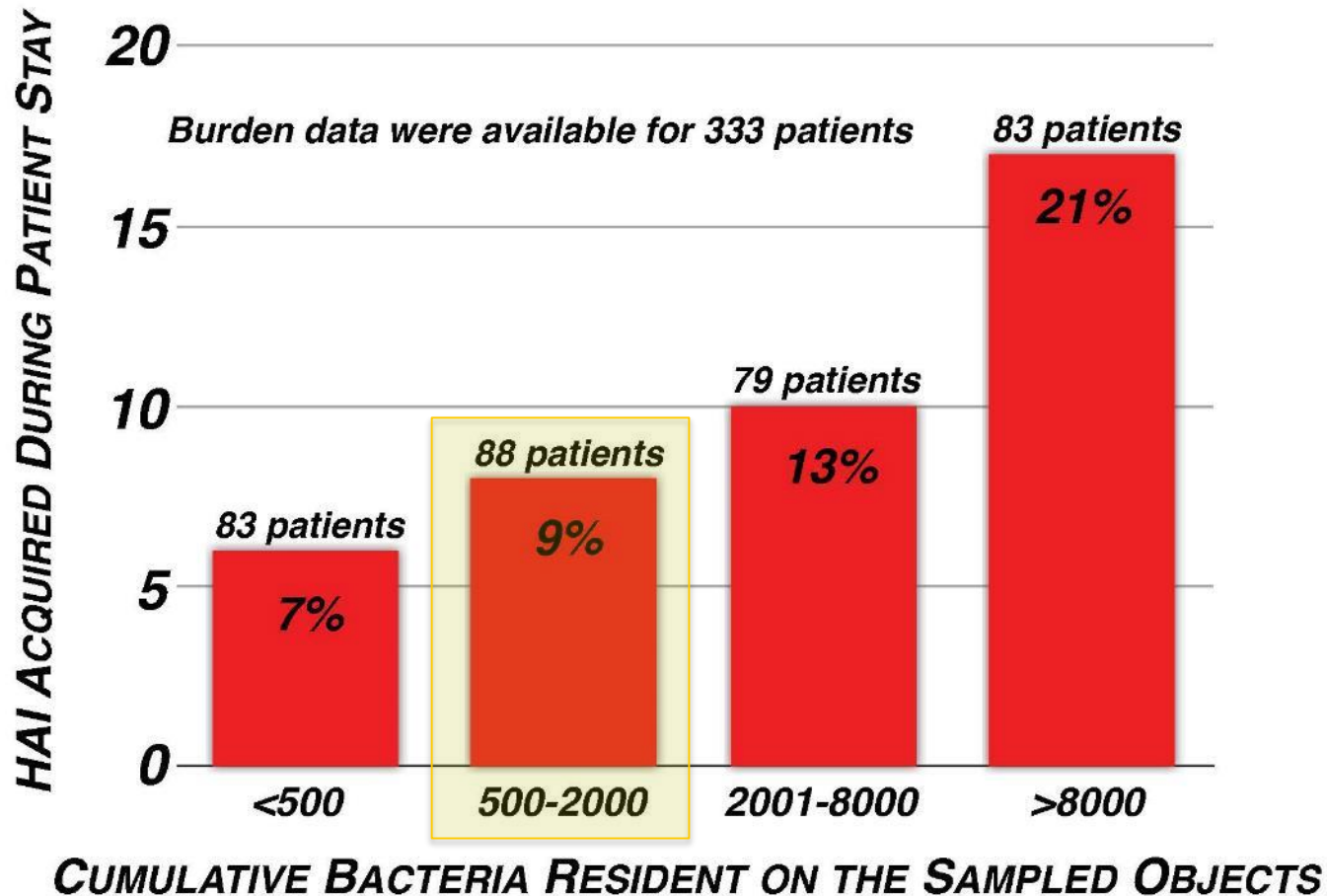
Bacterial contamination on surfaces leads to infections



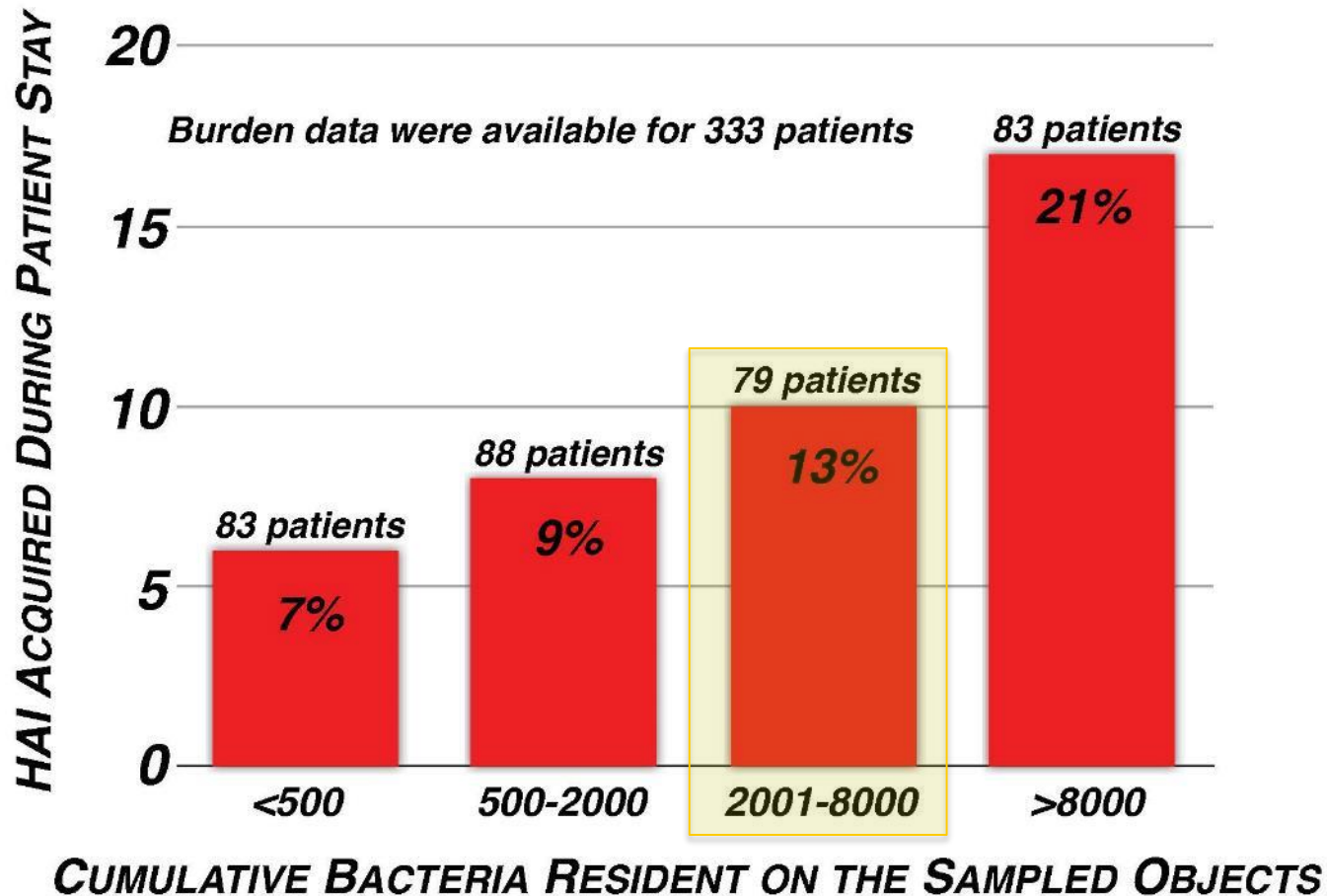
Bacterial contamination on surfaces leads to infections



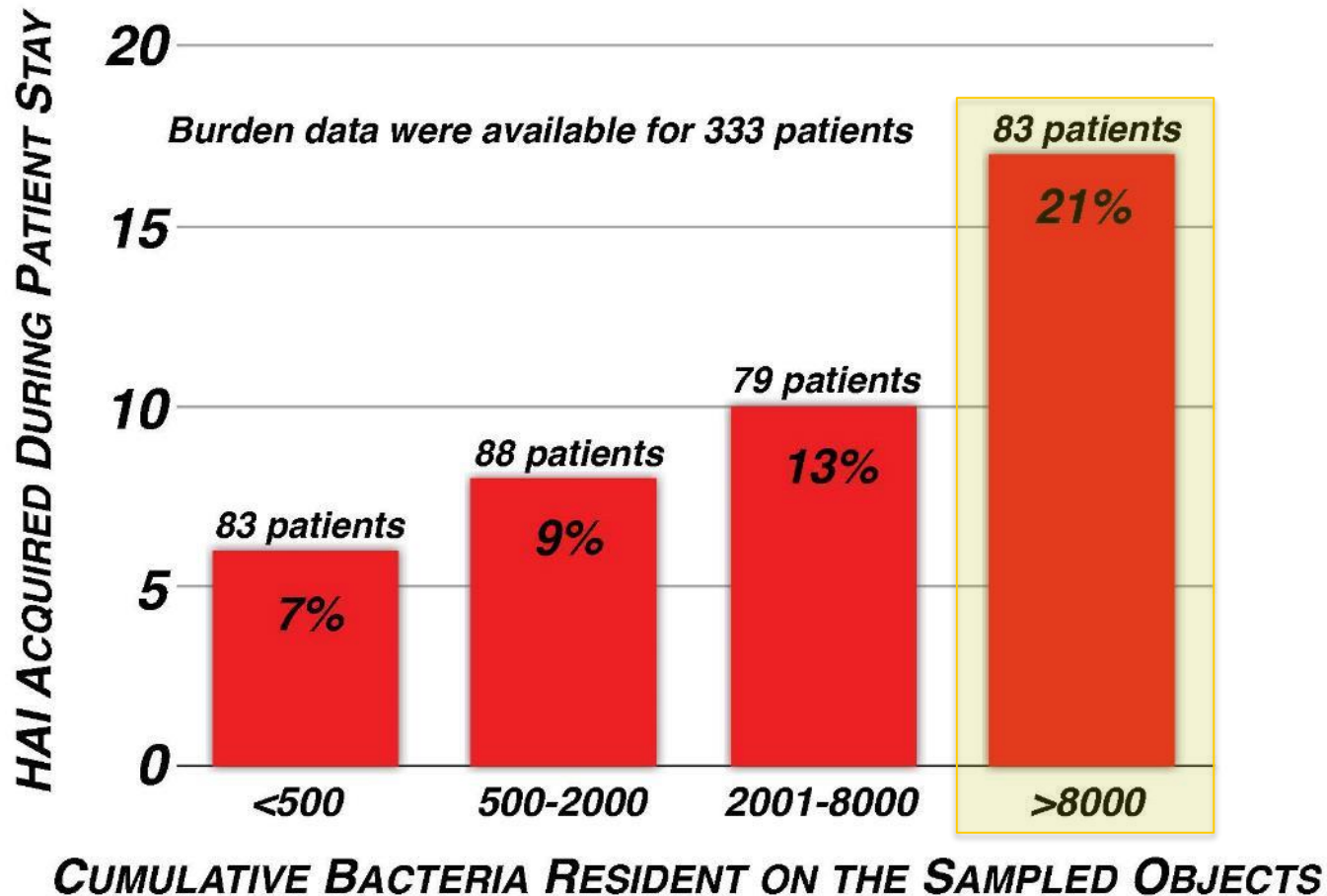
Bacterial contamination on surfaces leads to infections



Bacterial contamination on surfaces leads to infections



Bacterial contamination on surfaces leads to infections



The use of Antimicrobial Copper surfaces prevented 14 infections

Infections/Patients in Copper Rooms: 10/294 patients

Infections/Patients in Control Rooms: 26/320 patients

Normalizing to the number of patients in the Copper Rooms:
 $(26 \times 294)/320 = 23.9 = 24$ Infections

Thus $24 - 10 = 14$ infections prevented by copper

Basic ROI for Antimicrobial Copper products

- Low Cost Scenario (assumes \$29K/HAI)
 - 14 infections prevented X \$29,000/Infection = **\$406,000 Costs Saved**
 - \$406,000 ÷ 338 days = **\$1201 per day**
 - \$52,000 ÷ 1201/day = **43.3 day payback period**
- High Cost Scenario (assumes \$43K/HAI)
 - 14 infections prevented X \$43,000/Infection = **\$602,000 Costs Saved**
 - \$602,000 ÷ 338 days = **\$1781/day**
 - \$52,000 ÷ \$1781/day = **29.2 day payback period**

Early adopters: Pullman Regional Hospital

Pullman, WA



Early adopters: Charlotte-Hungerford Hospital *Torrington, CT*



Early adopters: Regency Hospital

Golden Valley, MN



Antimicrobial Copper touch surfaces offer a powerful new **infection-prevention tool**. They **work 24/7** to eliminate the bacteria that cause healthcare-acquired infections **without staff behavioral changes**. They are a **one-time cost** that provide long-term benefits.

Thank you

Wilton Moran, Project Engineer

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