

Common Areas of Cross-Contamination



Touching a keyboard or mouse with a gloved hand is a common cause of cross-contamination. Here, a black light shows the spreading of simulated spray contamination.

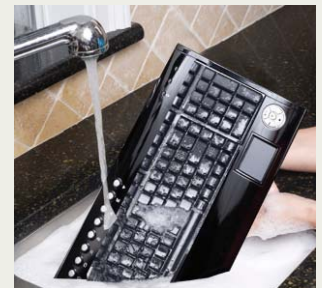
In a recent article, Leslie Canham, CDA, RDA, cited areas for cross-contamination concern in an Orthodontic practice.

“Environmental surfaces include surfaces or equipment that do not contact patients directly but can become contaminated during patient treatment. This occurs as a result of spray generated during treatment, contact with contaminated instruments or devices, or when a member of the orthodontic team touches the surfaces with contaminated gloves. These surfaces can serve as reservoirs of microbial contamination. Transfer of microorganisms from contaminated environmental surfaces to patients occurs primarily through DHCP hand contact. When you touch these surfaces, microbial agents can be transferred to instruments; other environmental surfaces; or to the nose, mouth, or eyes of workers or patients.”

Environmental surfaces are divided into clinical contact surfaces and housekeeping surfaces. Clinical contact surfaces are surfaces that come in contact with sprays, spatters, contaminated instruments, and your gloved hand. These include computer keyboards and mice. Thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting these surfaces is essential to reducing cross-contamination.

WASH THE KEYBOARD AND MOUSE TO COMPLETELY DISINFECT!!!!

Well-defined cleaning protocols include regularly washing surfaces we touch often, and that includes keyboards and mice. Wash my keyboard? Wash my mouse? Can I do that? Not with most keyboards and mice. Even the so-called spillproof keyboards can take only a limited amount of moisture before they just stop working.



SPILLPROOF IS NOT WATERPROOF!

Only **SEAL SHIELD™** keyboards and mice with **SILVER SEAL™** technology meet the tough IP68 submersibility standards. These keyboards and mice use the exclusive **SEAL SHIELD™** waterproofing technology (Patent Pending) that make the the only **fully submersible and dishwasher safe products on the market**. These keyboards can even be washed in a diluted bleach solution to disinfect the board thoroughly. **SEAL SHIELD™** Keyboards and mice are protected with **SILVER SEAL™** antimicrobial plastic and silicon.

Seal Shield™ Silver Surf Keyboard
Antimicrobial, Washable, Corded / Wireless Keyboard



Seal Shield™ Silver Surf Mouse
Antimicrobial, Washable Wireless Mouse

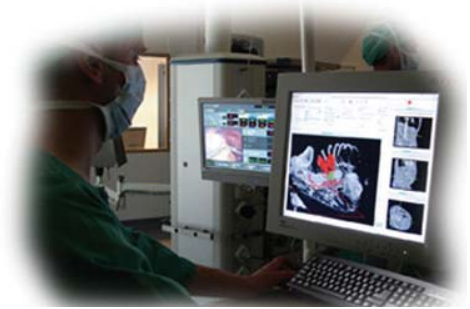


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Pay Now or Pay Later

- One MRSA case costs approximately \$28,000 to treat.
- A typical healthcare-associated infection (HAI) costs a hospital \$15,000 to treat.
- 99,000 people die from HAIs each year.
- An HAI extends the average patient stay by an average of 25 days.
- Reimbursement for HAIs is declining and will likely continue to do so.
- The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced its action plan to reduce HAIs.



The fact of the matter is hospitals are mandated to clean up their act and get HAIs under control, especially now that Medicare and other insurers are not reimbursing hospitals for treating HAIs. Some hospitals have successfully lowered their HAI rate by taking measures to clean their facilities thoroughly and regularly. Part of that cleaning process includes disinfecting common-touch surfaces such as keyboards and mice.

And now that requirement is reaching beyond the hospital. Last year the CDC traced a MRSA outbreak in the Washington, DC, school district directly to a computer keyboard. Schools across the nation are facing issues with students being infected with this Super Bug, and many of those students are dying as a result of that infection. The cost to clean up AFTER THE FACT is enormous and not typically included in the school budget. How much less expensive it is to make a small purchase now that can easily help eliminate one source of cross-contamination.

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Seal Shield™ Silver Seal Keyboard Antimicrobial, Washable, True Type Keyboard



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