

**A MESSAGE FROM PROFESSIONAL DISPOSABLES INTERNATIONAL, INC. (PDI®):**

Recently, the efficacy of germicidal wipes was questioned in a study conducted in the United Kingdom. While some of the report's findings have been released to the media, important parameters of the study protocol have not yet been made available. Without this key information, it is difficult to provide an accurate response.

However, there are two primary concerns brought to light which should be addressed. First, the proper use of surface disinfecting wipes is essential. Hospital staff members in the study used the same wipe on multiple surfaces, from bed rails to monitors, tables and keypads, highlighting the risk of contamination. When used repeatedly in this fashion, a disposable wipe or cloth can actually spread germs rather than kill them. In addition, the findings revealed that all wipes are not equivalent. Some of the wipes used did not have suitable kill claims to serve the purpose for which they were used.

Pre-moistened wipes are only effective in removing, killing and preventing the spread of pathogens, such as MRSA, if they are used properly. This further emphasizes the need for appropriate surface disinfection protocols and training which PDI, the pioneer of the wet wipes industry and creators of the first germicidal wipe over 20 years ago, has long been committed.

To achieve the product's maximum efficacy, it is vital that all manufacturers' recommendations are followed. The healthcare provider's technique for correctly disinfecting environmental surfaces in the hospital setting is critical, which is why PDI systematically trains end users.

PDI Sani-Cloth® Plus, Super Sani-Cloth® and Sani-Cloth® HB are EPA registered surface disinfectants with documented efficacy claims against organisms of public health concern. Each individual claim has been reviewed and accepted by the EPA. PDI developed the three-formula disinfectant wipe platform to address the different surface needs and situations encountered throughout the acute care environment.

When more complete information from the UK study becomes available, PDI will be able to provide an additional analysis. In the interim, PDI will continue to focus on product and delivery system innovations and offering the widest range of kill claims for its products. We will also remain steadfast in our dedication to partner with Infection Control Professionals in providing education and proper training on all PDI products.

For 30 years, PDI has pioneered the development, testing, manufacturing and marketing of pre-moistened wipes as the optimum delivery system for skin antisepsis, hand hygiene, patient and surface care. With trusted brands including Sani-Cloth<sup>®</sup>, Sani-Hands<sup>®</sup> ALC, Sani-Hands<sup>®</sup> for Kids, Hygea<sup>®</sup> and Chlorascrub<sup>™</sup>, PDI serves the healthcare market through hospitals, physician and dental offices, emergency medical services, long-term care, schools and a variety of other healthcare facilities.

Professional Disposables International, Inc. is headquartered in Orangeburg, New York. For more information, visit [www.pdipdi.com](http://www.pdipdi.com).