GOJO

HAND HYGIENE TIMES

Your resource for the latest news in effective infection control program development and best practices.

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Sustainable Healthcare

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We frequently hear the word sustainability today and may wonder what does it mean and how does it apply to healthcare settings. Sustainability has been described simply as the human population living in a way that doesn't prevent or inhibit future generations from meeting their needs.[1] The Healthier Hospitals Initiative (HHI), is a coalition of major health systems and organizations committed to improving sustainability and safety across the healthcare sector, and has created the Healthier Hospitals Agenda to chart a path to a healthier, more sustainable and more cost effective healthcare systems.[2] The HHI has joined with other organizations that focus on sustainability in healthcare to utilize their expertise to develop and implement their agenda. These organizations include:

- Healthcare Without Harm
- Practice Green Health
- The Center for Health Design

The Healthier Hospital Agenda is based on evidence which suggests that how we design, build and operate hospitals can improve patient outcomes and workplace safety, prevent illnesses, and create extraordinary environmental benefits and save billions of dollars. The Healthier Hospital Agenda includes:

- **Environmental health and patient safety initiative.** This initiative suggests that hospitals create a sustainable purchasing agenda that considers the environmental impact on all aspects of purchasing from packaging to ultimate disposal. This initiative also deals with healthier food in hospitals for both patients and employees.
- **Reduce healthcare use of natural resources and generation of waste.** A waste reduction initiative is encouraged with a target of 30% waste reduction goal through ***Reduce, Reuse and Recycle*** programs. Currently healthcare produces 5.9 million tons of waste annually.
- **Institute sustainability and safety that supports sustainability research and innovation.** Many hospitals are studying ways to make the hospital environment a safer environment, with reduced chemicals and toxins that healthcare workers and patients are exposed to.

The healthcare sector has a large environmental footprint. An environmental footprint can be defined as the amount of the earth's surface it takes to provide everything the healthcare facility uses including food, water, energy, clothing and buildings. The larger the footprint, the more resources are needed to support it. Many hospitals are reporting an economic benefit of savings and reduced costs with their efforts to reduce the footprint and become sustainable.[3]

Going green, or creating a sustainable hospital environment may seem like a daunting task. There are many initiatives that can be done to help create a sustainable environment, such as a rainwater collection system, or a healing garden, or purchasing furniture made from recyclable materials. A simpler place to start might be supporting a recycling program, and by looking at the packaging of the products that are chosen by the product selection committee. Hand hygiene and Infection Prevention programs remain a key component of patient and employee safety initiatives. It is an added benefit to incorporate sustainable solutions to the programs.

1 Root, J. (2009). Sustainability and healthcare: What's the green connection? Retrieved from:http://planetgreen.discovery.com/food-health/green-health-care.html
2 Healthier Hospitals Initiative: Improving sustainability and safety in healthcare. Retrieved from: http://www.healthierhospitals.org/
3 Healthcare Without Harm. Leading the healthcare sector to sustainability. Retrieved from: http://www.noharm.org/us_canada/

THAT'S a FACT!

Every ton of recycled paper saves almost 400 gallons of oil, three cubic yards of landfill and seventeen trees. As many as 17 trees are required to make one ton of paper.

http://www.nyu.edu/sustainability/about.sustainability/fast.facts.html

Product Feature

GOJO GREEN PRODUCT PORTFOLIO

Economic sustainability involves the decisions facilities make that protect the health and well-being of healthcare workers (HCWs), patients and visitors. PURELL® hand sanitizers and PROVON® hand soaps are part of a good hand hygiene program to help protect HCWs, patients and visitors, and help reduce the spread of infections that may cause illness and lower the cost of doing business.

When GOJO hand hygiene and skin care products effectively fight germs and help reduce infections, the result is economic sustainability. Good hand hygiene helps maintain the health, and well-being of HCWs, patient and visitors while contributing to the bottom line.

GOJO offers a complete portfolio of green certified hand hygiene, products that encourage healthy habits for people, support green cleaning efforts and reduce negative impacts on the environment.

PURELL® Green Certified Instant Hand Sanitizer Gel and Foam Formulations[1]

- The world's first Green Certified Hand Sanitizer.[2]
- Made from 100% naturally renewable ethanol.
- This green certified hand hygiene product meets the USDA BioPreferred program for bio-based content.[3]
- Readily biodegradable gel and non-aerosol foam formula.[4]
- Meets the EcoLogo hand sanitizer standard CCD-170 for environmental leadership and proven performance.
- Available in both touch-free and manual dispensing systems.
- Dispenser refills feature GOJO® SMART-FLEX™ technology – the lightweight, recyclable PET bottle made with 30% less material and the same durability as a standard rigid HDPE bottle.

PROVON® Green Certified Foam Hand Cleaners

- A mild, biodegradable foam soap formula for use in healthcare environments.
  - Certified to meet Green Seal™ standard GS-41 and EcoLogo™ standard CC-104 for hand cleaners.
  - Dermatologist tested and shown to be mild.

GOJO GREEN HYGIENE™ Solutions is a comprehensive sustainable hand hygiene program that can help you create a more sustainable building environment. It will help you reduce risks to health and well-being by providing gentle, effective, environmentally responsible products while promoting good hand hygiene as part of your green cleaning effort.

Description	Order Number	Case Pack	Uses Dispenser
PURELL Green Certified Instant Hand Sanitizer			
PURELL Green Certified Instant Hand Sanitizer Foam			
700 ml ADX™ Refill	8704-04	4	8771-03
1200 ml ADX Refill	8804-03	3	8871-06
1200 ml TFX™ Refill	5391-02	2	2720-12
1200 ml FMX™ Refill	5191-03	3	5120-06
535 ml Bottle	5791-04	4	5700-06
PURELL Green Certified Instant Hand Sanitizer			
700 ml ADX Refill	8703-04	4	8720-03
1200 ml ADX Refill	8803-03	3	8820-06
1200 ml TFX Refill	5491-04	4	2720-12
12 fl oz Bottle	3691-12	12	9005-12, 9007-12
8 fl oz Bottle	9691-12	12	
PURELL Instant Hand Sanitizer Skin Nourishing Foam *Now Green Certified*			
700 ml ADX Refill	8706-04	4	8720-03
1200 ml ADX Refill	8806-03	3	8720-03
1200 ml TFX Refill	5398-02	2	2720-12
1000 ml TFX Refill	5399-02	2	2720-12
1200 ml FMX Refill	5198-03	3	5120-06
1000 ml FMX Refill	5199-03	3	5120-06
535 ml Bottle	5798-04	4	5700-06

Description	Order Number	Case Pack	Uses Dispenser
PROVON® Clear & Mild Foam Handwash			
700 ml ADX Refill	8721-04	4	8771-06
1250 ml ADX Refill	8821-03	3	8871-06
PROVON® Citrus Ginger Foam Hand & Showerwash			
1250 ml ADX Refill	8824-03	3	8871-06
PROVON® Green Certified Foam Hand Cleaner			
1200 ml TFX Refill	5382-02	2	2745-12
1250 ml FMX Refill	5182-03	3	5160-06

1. Meets the EcoLogo® hand sanitizer standard for environmental leadership and proven performance.
2. First to meet an independent, 3rd party, type-1 Ecolabel environmental standard for hand antiseptics.
3. Qualifies as a USDA BioPreferred product for Federal preferred procurement.
4. Formulation is readily biodegradable per OECD 301.

A Look Ahead

next month's issue

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