

INFECTION CONTROL



EDITORIAL

Flash Sterilization: Carefully Measured Haste

Dennis G. Maki, MD; Carol A. Hassemer, BS

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

An Evaluation of Three Biological Indicator Systems in Flash Sterilization

Helen Rosen Kotilainen, MA, MT(ASCP), CIC; Nelson M. Gantz, MD, FACP

The Importance of Surveillance Stool Cultures During Periods of Severe Neutropenia

Carol L. Wells, PhD; Patricia Ferrieri, MD; Daniel J. Weisdorf, MD; Frank S. Rhame, MD

A Study on the Incidence of Postoperative Infections and Surgical Sepsis in a University Hospital

L. Ortona; G. Federico; M. Fantoni; F. Pallavicini; F. Ricci; A. Antinori

***Staphylococcus aureus* Mediastinitis: Prognostic Usefulness of an Early Medicosurgical Therapy**

Pascal Voiriot, MD; J. André Marcoux, MD; Raymond Duperval, MD; Javier Teijeira, MD

Brief Report: Cytomegalovirus Infection in Pediatric House Officers: Susceptibility to and Rate of Primary Infection

Michael T. Brady, MD; Gail J. Demmler, MD; Donald C. Anderson, MD

SPECIAL SECTIONS

Topics in Clinical Microbiology: *Candida (Torulopsis) glabrata*

John T. Sinnott, IV, MD; James P. Cullison, MD; Michael P. Sweeney, MD

Readers' Forum: Hospital Infection Control in Sweden

Bertil Nyström, MD

The Latest On US AND REUSE

EPA ACCEPTED: For complete disinfection (including T.B. activity)

“SPORICIDIN, DILUTED 1:16, IS TUBERCULOCIDAL AND CAN BE USED AND RE-USED FOR 30 DAYS FOR 100% HOSPITAL LEVEL DISINFECTION IN 10 MINUTES AT TRUE ROOM TEMPERATURE, 68°F AND ABOVE” (REG. #8383-5).”

Important Product Information:

Sporicidin is the **ONLY** dilutable glutaraldehyde-based 10 minute disinfectant that is registered for tuberculocidal re-use without heating. Respiratory and other equipment were used in the studies supporting the re-use claims. It is recommended for respiratory therapy and operating room instruments and equipment.

Sporicidin is recommended by all major scope manufacturers.

**** Cidex now must be heated to 77°F / 25°C for 45 minutes for tuberculocidal activity.** Cidex, and Cidex type products, require a much higher glutaraldehyde concentration (2%) for disinfection and are less effective than Sporicidin, a glutaraldehyde (0.13%)-phenate complex.

Under the most stringent and scientific guidelines, Sporicidin is the best sterilizing/disinfecting product available.



Curtis L. Lynch, M.D.
Curtis L. Lynch, M.D., M.P.H.
Medical Director
(800) 424-3733

Sporicidin
INTERNATIONAL
12000 Old Georgetown Road
Rockville, MD 20852

INFECTION CONTROL®

Table of Contents

EDITORIAL

- Flash Sterilization: Carefully Measured Haste** 307
Dennis G. Maki, MD; Carol A. Hassemer, BS

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

- An Evaluation of Three Biological Indicator Systems In Flash Sterilization** 311
Helen Rosen Kotilainen, MA, MT(ASCP), CIC; Nelson M. Gantz, MD, FACP
- The Importance of Surveillance Stool Cultures During Periods of Severe Neutropenia** 317
Carol L. Wells, PhD; Patricia Ferrieri, MD; Daniel J. Weisdorf, MD; Frank S. Rhame, MD
- A Study on the Incidence of Postoperative Infections and Surgical Sepsis in a University Hospital** 320
L. Ortona; G. Federico; M. Fantoni; F. Pallavicini; F. Ricci; A. Antinori
- Staphylococcus aureus* Mediastinitis: Prognostic Usefulness of an Early Medicosurgical Therapy** 325
Pascal Voiriot, MD; J. André Marcoux, MD; Raymond Duperval, MD; Javier Teijeira, MD
- Brief Report: Cytomegalovirus Infection in Pediatric House Officers: Susceptibility to and Rate of Primary Infection** 329
Michael T. Brady, MD; Gail J. Demmler, MD; Donald C. Anderson, MD

SPECIAL SECTIONS

- Topics in Clinical Microbiology: *Candida (Torulopsis) glabrata*** 334
John T. Sinnott, IV, MD; James P. Cullison, MD; Michael P. Sweeney, MD
- Readers' Forum: Hospital Infection Control in Sweden** 337
Bertil Nyström, MD

DEPARTMENTS

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|---------|
| Information for Authors | 303 | Calendar of Events | 340 |
| Letters to the Editor | 305 | Classified Marketplace | Cover 3 |
| Book Reviews | 339 | | |

The ideas and opinions expressed by contributing authors do not necessarily reflect those of the editors or publisher.

Publisher: Infection Control (ISSN-0195-9417) is published monthly by SLACK Incorporated, 6900 Grove Road, Thorofare, New Jersey 08086. Telephone: (609) 848-1000.

Copyright 1987: All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced without written permission from the publisher.

Subscriptions. Requests should be addressed to the publisher (except Japan). In Japan, contact Woodbell Scope Incorporated, Mansui Bldg., 9-18, Kanda Surugadai 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101, Japan. Subscription rates in the US and possessions: Individual: One year—\$40.00; Two years—\$66.00; Three years—\$94.00. Institutional: One year—\$55.00; Two years—\$92.00; Three years—\$128.00; Canada: \$15.00 additional each year; all other countries: \$25.00 additional each year. Single copies of current issues may be obtained for \$7.00, United States and possessions; \$13.00 all other countries.

Change of address: Notice should be sent to the publisher six weeks in advance of effective date. Include old and new addresses with zip codes. The publisher cannot accept responsibility for undelivered copies. Second-class postage is paid at Thorofare, New Jersey 08086. **Postmaster:** Send address changes to SLACK Incorporated, 6900 Grove Road, Thorofare, NJ 08086.

As of Volume 1, Number 1, INFECTION CONTROL is listed in *Index Medicus*, *Current Contents—Clinical Practice*, *Hospital Literature Index*, and *Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature*.

EDITOR

Richard P. Wenzel, MD, MSc
Iowa City, Iowa

SENIOR

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

William Schaffner, MD
Nashville, Tennessee

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Sue Crow, MSN, RN
Shreveport, Louisiana

John E. McGowan, Jr., MD
Atlanta, Georgia

Dennis G. Maki, MD
Madison, Wisconsin



SLACK Incorporated
6900 Grove Road
Thorofare, New Jersey 08086

Publisher

Richard N. Roach

Editorial Director

Donna Carpenter

Senior Editor/Development

John C. Carter

Editorial Coordinator

Sandra L. Patterson

Assistant Editor

Dawn A. Zwick

Editorial Assistant

Mary Lou Jerrell

Production Manager

Jim Griffin

Production Coordinator

Lester Robeson

Circulation Manager

Kevin J. Fenton

Advertising Manager

Randall Roach

Advertising

Sales Representative

Wayne M. McCourt

Advertising Sales

Coordinator

Betty Martz

Classified

Advertising Representative

Donna M. Coles

EDITORIAL OFFICES

C41 General Hospital
University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics
Iowa City, Iowa 52242
(319) 356-0464

William J. Hausler, Jr., PhD

R. Michael Massanari, MD, MS

Michael Pfaller, MD

Robert F. Woolson, PhD

Managing Editor

Marikay Klein

EDITORIAL

ADVISORY BOARD

Robert C. Aber, MD
Hershey, Pennsylvania

Paul Arnow, MD
Chicago, Illinois

Charles S. Bryan, MD
Columbia, South Carolina

John P. Burke, MD
Salt Lake City, Utah

Mary Castle, MPH, RN
Berkeley, California

Marie B. Coyle, PhD
Seattle, Washington

Burke A. Cunha, MD
Mineola, New York

Richard E. Dixon, MD
Trenton, New Jersey

Leigh G. Donowitz, MD
Charlottesville, Virginia

Mark Eggleston, PharmD
Washington, DC

Harvey A. Elder, MD
Loma Linda, California

Bruce Farber, MD
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Martin S. Favero, PhD
Atlanta, Georgia

Peter C. Fuchs, MD, PhD
Portland, Oregon

Richard A. Garibaldi, MD
Farmington, Connecticut

Angella Goetz, MEd, RN
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Donald A. Goldmann, MD
Boston, Massachusetts

Dieter H.M. Gröschel, MD
Charlottesville, Virginia

Peter A. Gross, MD
Hackensack, New Jersey

Karen Hadley, MPH, RN
New Orleans, Louisiana

David K. Henderson, MD
Bethesda, Maryland

Peter N.R. Heseltine, MD
Los Angeles, California

Cyrus C. Hopkins, MD
Boston, Massachusetts

Allen B. Kaiser, MD
Nashville, Tennessee

Donald L. Kaiser, DrPH
Charlottesville, Virginia

Elaine Larson, PhD
Cabin John, Maryland

Harold Laufman, MD, PhD
New York, New York

Barbara McArthur, PhD, RN
Detroit, Michigan

Rob Roy MacGregor, MD
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

C. Glen Mayhall, MD
Richmond, Virginia

Patti J. Miller, MS
Charlottesville, Virginia

Harry C. Nottebart, Jr., JD, MD
Richmond, Virginia

James E. Peacock, Jr., MD
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Frank S. Rhame, MD
Minneapolis, Minnesota

William A. Rutala, PhD, MPH
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

William E. Scheckler, MD
Madison, Wisconsin

Walter E. Stamm, MD
Seattle, Washington

Charles W. Stratton, MD
Nashville, Tennessee

Richard L. Sweet, MD
San Francisco, California

George H. Talbot, MD
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Timothy R. Townsend, MD
Baltimore, Maryland

James Veazey, MD
Albany, New York

FOREIGN

ADVISORY BOARD

Graham Ayliffe, MD, FRCPath.
Birmingham, England

Professor G. Berencsi
Szeged, Hungary

David Birnbaum, MPH
Sidney, British Columbia, Canada

Professor Jaap Dankert
Groningen, Netherlands

Professor Dr. F. Daschner
Freiburg, West Germany

Lars O. Kallings, MD
Stockholm, Sweden

Professor W.B. Kędzia
Sieroca, Poland

Professor A.P. Krasilnikow
Minsk, USSR

Professor Dr. W. Marget
Munich, West Germany

Jonathan L. Meakins, MD,
FRCSC, FACS
Montreal, Canada

Bertil Nyström, MD
Huddinge, Sweden

Ian Phillips, MA, MD, MRCPPath.
London, England

Samuel Ponce de Leon, MD
Mexico City, Mexico

Hans Reber, MD
Basel, Switzerland

Professor Gerald Reybrouck
Leuven, Belgium

Manfred L. Rotter, MD, DipBact
Vienna, Austria

Theodore Sacks, MD
Jerusalem, Israel

Dr. Bernhard M. Thimm
Federal Republic of Germany

Professor Dr. med. H.P. Werner
Mainz, West Germany

Professor Dr. W. Weuffen
Greifswald, German Democratic
Republic