



IHMEC

Breaking the Infection Chain



Nordic Indoor Hygiene Excellence

Antibiotic resistance is a threat to global health

According to the WHO, antibiotic resistance is one of the biggest threats to global health, food security, and development today.

A growing number of infections – such as pneumonia, tuberculosis, gonorrhoea, and salmonellosis – are becoming harder to treat as the antibiotics used to treat them become less effective.

Additionally, healthcare-associated infections (HAI) are a major global threat to patient safety. Healthcare-associated infections together with antibiotic resistance lead to longer hospital stays, higher medical costs, and increased mortality.

The combination of globalization of both people and goods, urbanization and challenge of healthcare associated infections and resistant microbes enables the global spreading of harmful infections.

Large crowds, who are meeting daily at e.g. shopping centres, airports, schools and hospitals, are at risk of catching infections.

Traditional means of good hygiene are no longer sufficient and new solutions are desperately needed to prevent the global spreading of serious infections.



IHMEC is a project connecting professionals in planning, designing, building, and furnishing indoor hygiene spaces to form indoor hygiene solutions. The project brings together relevant clusters from Finland, Sweden and Estonia who can offer new and tailor-made solutions.

Members of our team belong to the leaders of European Union level COST AMICI consortium focusing on Anti-Microbial Coating Innovations to prevent infectious diseases (www.amici-consortium.eu/, www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/ca/CA15114).

New solutions are needed to prevent the spreading of infections

Unique Indoor Hygiene know-how from Finland

Finland is the global pioneer in creating and implementing instructions of indoor hygiene. Existing co-operation with researchers and companies has resulted in unique know how in indoor hygiene solutions in Finland. The result of our work; the first and only existing Indoor Hygiene Guidelines can be applied in e.g. healthcare facilities to prevent infections spreading.

Indoor Hygiene Guidelines

The comprehensive national level Indoor Hygiene Guidelines introduce the basics of indoor hygiene, design & building & furnishing principles, and maintenance instructions. In addition to proper hand hygiene and cleaning practices, which are the basis of infection prevention, we can provide a new innovative material and design related concept to proactively break the infection chain.

Examples of Indoor Hygiene Solutions

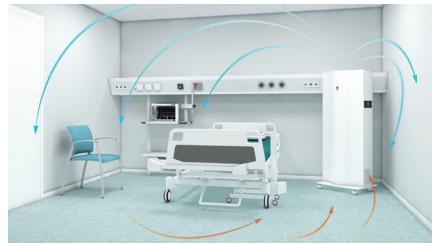
Antimicrobial features in touch-surfaces



Antimicrobial architectural hardware



Air decontamination systems



Cleanroom design



A 3-D animation showing more examples of IH solutions is available on our website www.ihmec.fi. Check it there!



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IHMEC Project Facts

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