

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and its Crucial Link to Disinfectant Use.

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In 2015, the Australian Government published a strategy stating that: “Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is one of the biggest threats to human and animal health today.”¹

In 2019, The AVA published their own paper: *Antimicrobial resistance strategy – 2020 and beyond*.² One of their key objectives was to “Improve infection prevention and control measures across human health and animal care settings” and “to help prevent infection and the spread of resistance”.

AMR occurs when microorganisms such as Bacteria, Viruses or Fungi (Yeast) become resistant to antimicrobial medicines or compounds. The three main classes of Antimicrobials are:

- Antibiotics
- Antiseptics
- Disinfectants

In 2018, the American Society for Microbiology published a paper titled *Widely used Benzalkonium Chloride (BAC) disinfectants can promote antibiotic resistance*.³ BAC is the most commonly used member of the QAC family of disinfectants and is used extensively worldwide in products such as disinfectants, pharmaceutical medicines and consumer products.

“The problem is not the efficacy of BAC itself as an antimicrobial, instead it’s the indiscriminate use or underuse of the product at varying concentrations, directions and contact times.”

In 2020/2021, Clinikill Platinum Hospital Grade Disinfectant was trialled at different dilution rates and contact times resulting in the final directions necessary to pass the rigorous standards of the TGA.

Compared to the dilution rates and contact times recommended by other (and considerably older) products, these recent trials concluded a higher concentration and contact time were essential to ensure efficacy.

It is clear that the battle against AMR therefore not only relies on:

- Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) which promotes optimal antimicrobial prescribing, but also;
- Proper use of a “2020 and Beyond” TGA approved disinfectant.

Therefore, before using a disinfectant, ensure the following:

- It’s been approved by the TGA post 2020.
- It can actually demonstrate approved trial work post 2020.

Clinikill Platinum can provide both of these and is your best partner in the AMR battle.

“It’s just better”

References

1. <https://www.amr.gov.au/>
2. <https://www.ava.com.au/siteassets/resources/fighting-antimicrobial-resistance/ava-submission-national-amr-strategy-2020-and-beyond.pdf>
3. <https://journals.asm.org/doi/full/10.1128/AEM.01201-18>