

Tristel Fuse for Surfaces

A safe and effective alternative disinfectant to chlorine tablets

Time for change at Homerton University Hospital

Chlorine tablets have historically been used for decades in the fight against hospital acquired infections (HCAI's), however, they have their limits. Chlorine tablets are harmful to users and the environment, corrosive to the fabric of buildings and hard surfaces and finally achieving the correct concentration can be problematic.

The Infection Control and Housekeeping Team at Homerton hospital were looking at changing from chlorine tablets due to the problems experienced. Floors were becoming damaged and staff were complaining of health problems when making up chlorine solutions. It was time for change...



Tristel Fuse for Surfaces burstable sachets

Who are Tristel?

Tristel plc is an infection control and decontamination company that utilizes the technology of chlorine dioxide to disinfect instruments as well as surfaces. Tristel's products kill all organisms, including spores, in short exposure times.

Tristel have been in the NHS sector for over 15 years and have a long pedigree of combating infection in all areas of medical device decontamination, water system purification and surfaces' disinfection.

What is chlorine dioxide?

Chlorine dioxide is a well understood and widely researched chemistry that is used in many applications worldwide, including fruit and vegetable washing, meat and poultry disinfection and mouth washes and contact lens cleaners.

While chlorine dioxide has chlorine in its name, their chemical properties are radically different from each other. Chlorine dioxide has a higher oxidising capacity than chlorine which means it is more effective as a disinfectant.

Chlorine dioxide works at much lower concentrations than chlorine meaning it's health and safety profile is better and it is safer for users and the environment. Chlorine dioxide is highly effective biocide, but because the chemical structure at the surface of human cells differs from that of micro-organisms, it is non-toxic and safe.

Chlorine dioxide does not damage floors, lift up polish or attack stainless steel as chlorine can.



The world's only practical rapid action high-level disinfecting and sporicidal solution for large surface areas

What is Tristel Fuse for Surfaces?

Tristel Fuse for Surfaces was developed as the world's only practical rapid action high-level disinfecting and sporicidal solution for large surface areas. It combines the biocidal efficacy of chlorine dioxide with a detergent producing a dual cleaning agent.

Tristel Fuse is rapidly effective against organisms that could result in HAI's, including that of the spore forming organism *Clostridium difficile*. Fuse is also effective against MRSA and blood born viruses.

Biocidally, Fuse is far superior to sodium hyperchlorite (chlorine tablets).

Tristel Fuse for Surfaces is a sporicidal surface cleaner that comes in a burstable sachet. It can be used on all hard surfaces including floors, walls, doors, windows, bathrooms and all patient areas. There is a choice of

sachets generating 1 litre of working solution and sachets generating 5 litres of working solution. Both remain active for 24 hours. A detergent has been added to enable cleaning and disinfection to be one process.

Activation of chlorine dioxide is instant and both size sachets come in a fragranced version (lemon scented) or un-fragranced (swimming pool/chlorine odour). No fumes are given off and, as Tristel Fuse is a liquid, there is no waiting time for dilution. Fuse is ready to use immediately. Disposal is to normal drainage.

Homerton trial summary

The Tristel representatives organised a trial of Tristel Fuse on a number of wards at the Homerton Hospital. Full training was provided to all of the housekeepers and nursing staff.

After a successful trial, Homerton Hospital adopted Tristel Fuse for Surfaces throughout the Trust.

The Infection Control Department commented as follows:

"The Homerton have decided to switch to Tristel Fuse for general cleaning

The advantages of Tristel Fuse over chlorine tablets

- Simple to use burstable sachet, no counting out tablets
- Comes in 5 litre and 1 litre sachets
- Ready to use immediately, no waiting for tablets to dissolve
- 5 minute contact time for all organisms
- Comes in a pleasant lemon fragrance
- Does not produce strong fumes as with chlorine tablets
- Contains a detergent, cleans as well as disinfects
- Lasts for 24 hours
- Can be used with tepid water
- Does not lift up polish, damage floors, mattress's or microfibre cloths as chlorine tablets can
- Does not corrode stainless steel or other metals unlike chlorine tablets
- Cost is not prohibitive to use, hospitals report a saving or similar cost to chlorine tablets
- Staff find it pleasant and easy to use, unlike chlorine tablets
- Available from NHS Supply Chain and discussed in the NHS Cleaning Manual (under 'New Technologies')





and disinfection as part of the Trusts's commitment to prevent and control healthcare associated infections. The product has been introduced at the beginning of the year and with extensive training that covered both domestics and nursing staff. It was enthusiastically received. It was appealing to both groups because of the easy way to prepare the solution with minimal waiting time and the ability to clean almost any surfaces from commodes, IV drip stands, mattresses and any other surfaces.

The Trust have already low numbers of *Clostridium difficile* cases due to prudent antibiotic prescribing, introduced a couple of years ago and the use of a chlorine solution, but with the Tristel's chlorine dioxide technology, it is efficient as a sporicidal disinfectant that you can spray unlike chlorine based solutions with minimal contact time. Tristel is not damaging to equipments unlike chlorine that can become corrosive over repeated use. I believe that with a product that

delivers what it says on the tin, coupled with the right amount of training, Tristel is an effective cleaning solution aimed at reducing HCAI's."

John McMullan, Medirest Operations Manager commented as follows:

"Since we introduced Tristel to site, over 12 months ago, we have been extremely satisfied with its performance. Unlike the product that was being used previously (chlorine tablets), Tristel has not damaged the shine of polished floors, nor has it left white powder residues everywhere. It is far easier/more efficient to use than the soluble chlorine tablets, with mixing times in seconds rather than tens of minutes, thereby allowing the Domestics to carry on with their work schedules without having to wait on tablets to dissolve etc. It also works extremely well with Microfibre cleaning cloths and mops as, once the solution is diluted in the relevant amount of water it can be poured over the cloths immediately." ■



Above is the patented Tristel Fuse for Surfaces sachet, designed to provide a high-level disinfecting and sporicidal solution when mixed with five litres of water. Sachets are also available for mixing with one litre of water where smaller quantities of solution are required.

For further details regarding Tristel's Fuse for Surfaces range, or to find out more about any of Tristel's other products, please contact:

Tristel Solutions Limited
Lynx Business Park, Fordham Road,
Snailwell, Cambridgeshire, CB8 7NY

Tel: +44 (0)1638 721500
Fax: +44 (0)1638 721911
Email: mail@tristel.com
Web: www.tristel.com