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Infection Prevention Products Inc., USA

Plastic bags cause infections in healthcare

The practice of storing a patient's reusable respiratory device in plastic bags in both SNF and Hospitals cause infections. Plastic bags cause Nosocomial Infections or HAI. Polyethylene plastic is the worst material found in a healthcare setting for bacterial adherence and growth according to the *Journal of Clinical Microbiology*. The practice of storing a patient's reusable respiratory device in a plastic bag causes infections not only on the patient, but the bacteria from the patient can be easily spread throughout a facility when plastic bags are replaced or simply touched. According to a study from PubMed, the adherence of bacteria was the highest on polyethylene catheters. Bacterial adherence was 1,700% greater on polyethylene vs. steel catheters. Studies done at CSUC documented the microbial adherence on a nasal cannula placed in a plastic bag vs. a breathable polypropylene mesh bag. The recoverable bacteria decreased 84-99% in just one hour in the mesh bag compared to that of the plastic bag. The respiratory region is the most vulnerable area on our body for contracting infections. 95% of healthy human adults were infected with the cold virus when just 1-30 particles of the cold virus were place in their nostrils. Infection Prevention Products Inc., will explain why plastic bags should not be used to store a patient's reusable respiratory device. Infection Prevention Products Inc., show studies where using a breathable moisture wicking pouch drastically reduces infections in healthcare facilities compared to the use of plastic bags.

Biography

R Scott Hatfield has over 25 years of experience as an Entrepreneur, has raised over 10 million in venture capital and started multiple ventures. He has designed numerous software applications and has been a frequent speaker at various industry conferences. In 2012, he Co-Founded Infection Prevention Products Inc. He has studied and continues to study and participate in numerous educational programs in healthcare and infection prevention. He has done exhaustive research on the dangers of plastic bags in healthcare and worked closely with the biology professor at CSUC testing the microbial adherence on a nasal cannula stored in a plastic bag. He received a certificate as an Infection Preventionist and has spoken at a number of infection prevention education seminars. His business promotes the use of the IP-Pouch® and IP-Pouch® family of products as an alternative to plastic bags.

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