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Microbiological checks of dispensers for pre-saturated surface disinfection wipes – Recommendations for lower-risk areas

Procedure with dip slides (manufacturer specific)

1. Unscrew cap and remove culture medium without touching agar-coated surfaces.
2. Dip the culture medium into the disinfection solution for 5 to 10 seconds; allow excess liquid to drain off and dab bottom of the slide on a clean filter paper or wipe.
3. Incubate for 72 hours between 27 °C and 30 °C. Maintain culture media in an upright position during incubation time.
4. After incubation time, evaluation is carried out by comparing the colony density on the agar surfaces with the sample pictures (see manufacturer's specifications).

The German Association for Applied Hygiene (VAH) recommends conducting these random check once a year [1]. The result is to be evaluated by a hospital hygienist.

Literature:

1. Desinfektionsmittel-Kommission im Verbund für angewandte Hygiene e.V.: Kontrollmaßnahmen bei der Anwendung von Tuchspendersystemen für die Flächendesinfektion in Abhängigkeit vom Risikoprofil. In: Hygiene & Medizin 2013, 38 (3): 108–109.