

HEADLINES STATISTICALLY SPEAKING

Rx: BIG BROTHER

A wireless system tracks deadly bacteria in hospitals to thwart outbreaks

The fastest way to spread disease is to pack a lot of sick people in one place. That's why hospitals are such a health hazard - equipment and personnel move from patient to patient and carry infectious agents in the process. One solution is to keep better track of every patient, wheelchair and IV stand to locate what's spreading disease and what needs to be sterilized, and one Canadian company is the first to deploy a system to do just that.

Infonaut's Hospital Watch Live system uses a combination of tracking software and inexpensive radio-frequency ID tags to record the location of anything that could possibly transport microbes, including the doctors and nurses themselves. Wireless receivers throughout the building transmit the position of each tag to a central computer about every three seconds. When staff members identify a patient infected with hospital-borne bacteria,

such as MRSA, they enter that patient's data into the system, and it retraces which rooms he has visited and what equipment and people he has been in contact with. It then IDs and ranks other potential disease carriers and demarcates hot zones throughout the building - high - traffic areas that could be reservoirs of disease. Janitorial staff can then concentrate their efforts on those Zones, rather than wasting precious time scrubbing clean rooms.

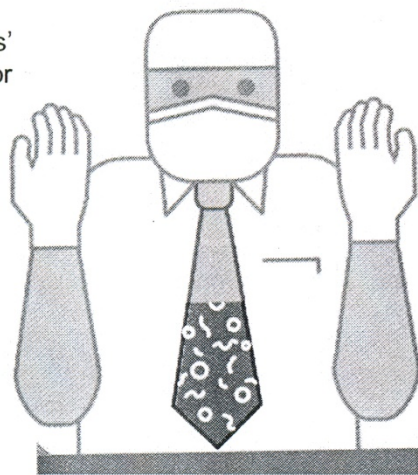
During a two-year trial at a hospital in Ontario, administrators cut a *C. difficile* epidemic from 10 new cases a month to one, saving an estimated 36 lives. The system went on sale in June and may soon be implemented in several hospitals in Canada and the U.S. "Health-care-acquired infections are hospitals' dirty little secret," says Niall Wallace, The CEO of Infonaut. "We're finding it and stamping it out."

Percentage of doctors' **NECKTIES** that harbor disease-causing bacteria:

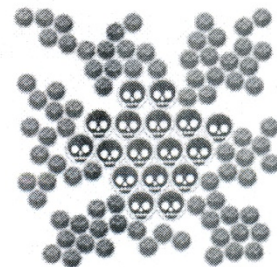
48

PERCENTAGE INCREASE OF MRSA INFECTIONS SINCE 1995:

867



Every year in the U.S., **1.7 MILLION** hospital-acquired infections cause 99,000 deaths.



Percentage of patients with invasive MRSA infections who die from it:

17

Percentage of health-care workers who do not clean their hands properly:

60

20 seconds: Time needed to scrub away bacteria with hand soap (like singing "Happy Birthday" twice)



RESPONDA AS QUESTÕES 1 e 2 **EM INGLÊS**. RESPOSTAS **EM PORTUGUÊS** NÃO SERÃO ACEITAS.

PRIMEIRA QUESTÃO

Why may hospitals be considered a health hazard?

RESOLUÇÃO:

Hospitals may be considered a health hazard because they are full of sick people.

Ou

Hospitals may be considered a health hazard due to diseases spread.

Ou

Hospitals may be considered a health hazard due to a lot of sick people.

SEGUNDA QUESTÃO

How can the technology developed by Infonaut help prevent the spread of hospital infections?

RESOLUÇÃO:

the technology developed by Infonaut help prevent the spread of hospital infections “ by” using a combination of tracking software and inexpensive radio-frequency ID tags to record the location of anything that could possibly transport microbes, including the doctors and nurses themselves.

Ou

According to the text the technology developed by Infonaut help prevent the spread of hospital infections by tracking deadly bacteria in hospitals to thwart outbreaks.

RESPONDA AS QUESTÕES 3 e 4 **EM PORTUGUÊS**. RESPOSTAS **EM INGLÊS** NÃO SERÃO ACEITAS.

TERCEIRA QUESTÃO

What does Niall Wallace imply when he states that “health-care-acquired infections are hospitals’ dirty little secret” and that Infonaut is “finding it and stamping it out”.

RESOLUÇÃO:

O que está implícito na fala de Niall Wallace é que uma grande parte das infecções hospitalares são de responsabilidade do próprio ambiente, e das pessoas que nele trabalham.

QUARTA QUESTÃO

Doctors and other health-care workers could be called “disease carriers”.

According to the text you have just read, is the statement above **right** or **wrong**? **Justify** your answer accordingly.

RESOLUÇÃO:

A assertiva é verdadeira, pois as porcentagens apresentadas no texto apontam para uma grande responsabilidade de médicos e outros profissionais da saúde como possíveis condutores de doenças. Dentre essas porcentagens, temos que 48% das gravatas utilizadas pelos médicos hospedam doenças infecciosas, e 60% dos outros trabalhadores de saúde não lavam suas mãos adequadamente.