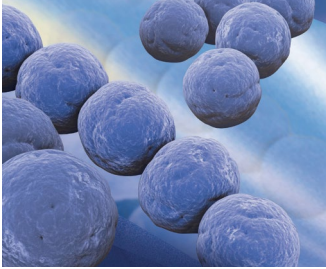


HAND HYGIENE

AN IDEAL SURGICAL HAND DISINFECTING AGENT SHOULD HAVE THE FOLLOWING PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS:

ANTIMICROBIAL ACTION



Broad spectrum antimicrobial activity against pathogenic organisms that works rapidly.¹

PERSISTENT ACTIVITY



An ideal hand disinfecting agent should have persistent activity that keeps bacterial count low under gloves.¹

SAFETY



An ideal hand disinfecting agent should be non-irritating, safe to use and not be damaging to the skin or environment.¹

ACCEPTANCE



An ideal hand disinfecting agent should encourage compliance & support from Healthcare users in adapting to a new product.¹

COMMON AGENTS USED IN THE OPERATING THEATRE ENVIRONMENT

GOOD

LIQUID OR FOAM SOAPS

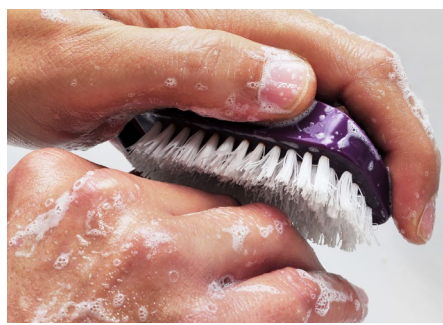


Liquid or foam medical soap used in conjunction with water and dry scrub brushes are the most common products used for surgical scrub. Antimicrobial agents in these products include CHG (chlorhexidine gluconate), iodophor or PCMX (parachlorometaxlenol) which are very drying, and with repeated scrubbing, can cause skin damage.⁵

Mitchell and colleagues suggested a brushless surgical hand scrub as early as the 1980s.²

BETTER

IMPREGNATED SCRUB BRUSHES/SPONGES



Scrub brushes/sponges preloaded with CHG, iodophor or PCMX are water-aided products. Skin irritation and dermatitis are more frequently observed after surgical hand scrub with chlorhexidine.⁴

Loeb's randomised, controlled clinical trial, published in the American Journal of Infection Control, failed to demonstrate an additional antimicrobial effect by using a brush.⁵

STATE-OF-THE-ART

ALCOHOL BASED SURGICAL HAND RUBS (ABHRs)

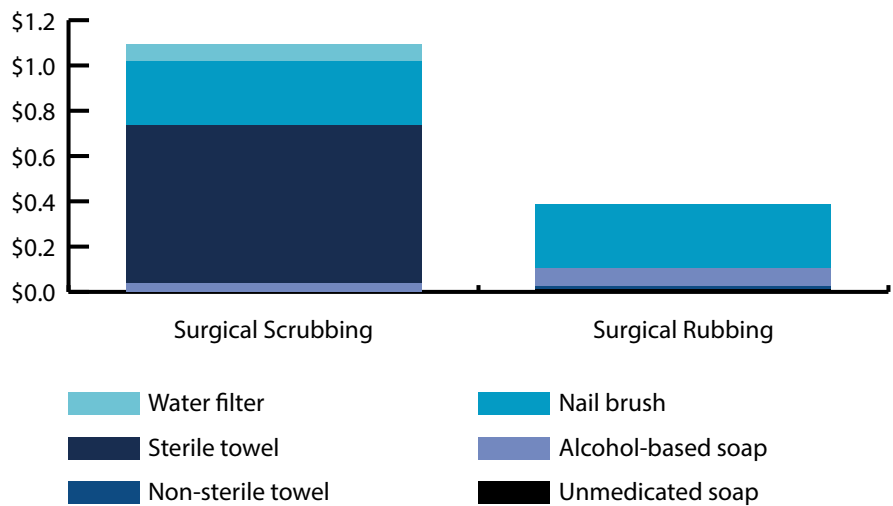


The antimicrobial efficacy of alcohol-based formulations is a superior method of preoperative surgical hand preparation. Alcohol rubs have rapid and immediate antibacterial action; and do not eliminate good micro-organisms naturally present on the skin.³

Alcohol rubs are less drying to the skin; allergy is rare and toxic effects have not been reported.^{6,7,8}

SURGICAL HAND SCRUBBING VERSUS SURGICAL HAND RUBBING

COST OF SURGICAL HAND SCRUBBING VERSUS ALCOHOL BASED HAND RUBBING:



Tavollacci study compared the efficacy of Surgical Hand Rubbing (SHR) against efficacy of Surgical Hand Scrubbing (SHS). The costs of SHR and SHS were estimated based on standard hospitals costs. The study concluded that SHR had immediate efficacy similar to that of SHS, however SHR had more lasting effect. **SHR reduced costs by 67%.** In summary, SHR is a cost-effective alternative to SHS.⁹

HAND SCRUBBING VERSUS ALCOHOL BASED HAND RUBBING: TIME SAVINGS



Studies demonstrate that SHR is 150% quicker in achieving Surgical Standard EN12791 which allows more time to focus on the operation list.¹⁰

HAND SCRUBBING VERSUS ALCOHOL BASED HAND RUBBING: SKIN TOLERABILITY



A Healthcare Worker's (HCW) hand after 2 weeks of hand hygiene using non-medicated liquid soap with 2% chlorhexidine containing solution; showed hand cracks and evidence of bleeding.



After 2 weeks of application of an alcohol based hand rub containing emollients.

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Training aid available for fluoro rub and UV Trainer

- Raises compliance and improves hand rubbing technique
- Supports correct hand disinfection
- Improves learning success

Safe UV-technology, excellent light and contrast in combination with FluoRub. Ready to use within a few seconds, practical size and light to carry.