



# Air Quality Monitoring

The air we breathe is a common vector for the transmission of harmful pathogens and poses a risk of causing an infection.

Maintaining good levels of indoor air quality (IAQ) is vital in minimising the spread of airborne infections that pose a serious threat to immunocompromised patients, staff and visitors in hospital.

## The Risk of Infection

The air quality of an area can be compromised without any obvious signs. An airborne infection may spread from a patient before diagnosis has been made whereas dust contamination and fungal spores may be introduced through internal renovation projects. Operational equipment such as ventilators and HVAC systems may be the cause of poor room ventilation meaning airborne pathogens can be transmitted especially between immunocompromised patients.

## The Most Susceptible

With a significant number of patients whose immune systems are impaired by medication or infection, it is imperative that hospitals reduce the risk of exposure to air-borne microbes that in turn can cause HAIs. *Aspergillus* spp. are of particular concern, especially just after construction or refurbishment has taken place and can be of particular danger to patients with lung disease.

It is therefore essential that there is a programme for regular air sampling to reduce the risk of HAIs occurring and to initiate suitable solutions in response to the results of the sampling.



### Did you know...

**£1bn**

HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATED  
INFECTIONS COST THE  
NHS **OVER £1,000,000,000**  
PER ANNUM<sup>1</sup>

- Airborne transmission is more prevalent in healthcare settings due to overburdened hospitals and the presence of immunocompromised patients<sup>2</sup>



Sources: See overleaf.



## How Inivos Can Help

specific project, or as a scheduled managed service contract. Our work is carried out in compliance with all relevant health and safety regulations. This enables us to reduce the risk of a patient acquiring an infection whilst in hospital.

## Our Service

We manage the project from end to end, and keep all stakeholders informed by communicating a complete project plan. Our teams of qualified technicians can work 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to ensure rapid turnaround and minimum disturbance or disruption to your clinical schedule.

**Pre-Service Assessment:** Our approach begins with a thorough understanding of your current Health and Safety plan around airborne particles. We then use our insights to design solutions that meet your needs and implement a strategy to keep employees and service users safe by monitoring the bacterial load in the air.

**Air Sampling:** Using the method of snatch sampling, a sample of air is carefully collected in a sealed container by our highly trained technicians. This process is then completed in all the relevant areas to give sufficient evidence. Once the air has been collected, the containers are immediately sealed and placed in a box for transportation. They are then transferred to a laboratory where the samples can be analysed.

**Post-Service Validation:** Once the samples have been analysed, a comprehensive report giving details of the pathogens discovered in the sample is compiled and presented with validated laboratory results. Recommendations for other services we provide will also be provided.

## Our Approach

We understand the importance of infection prevention and control and ensure our methods of work are effective at controlling the risk of cross contamination between areas.

Our knowledge and experience means we take care to fully seal any sampling cylinders and place them carefully in transportation containers so that there is minimal cross-contamination.

## Why Inivos?

Not only are we an established and trusted name in healthcare, with facilities and hospitals around the world relying on our advanced hydrogen peroxide vapour and UV-C light disinfection robots, but we also offer a level of expertise second to none, and services not provided by other companies, including call-outs, pre-cleaning assessments and decontamination.



Multiple areas included



Evidence based processes



Validated assurance



Dedicated project management

Helping you provide patient-ready spaces with on-call decontamination and managed services

**24** RAPID RESPONSE  
HOUR **0800 652 2689**



Our Inivos services are easy to arrange and tailored to your requirements:

Call **0845 270 6690** or email **customerservices@inivos.com**