

News Release

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Contact:	Diversey Contact	Keith Wootton Public Relations Consultant T: 01327 830675 E: diversey@keithwootton.co.uk

Preventing the Spread of NDM-1 Drug Resistant Bacteria Hand Hygiene & Effective Cleaning Processes Remain Vital

News of the emergence of the NDM-1 strains of antibiotic-resistant bacteria has once again highlighted the importance of good hand hygiene and effective cleaning practices in the fight to prevent the spread of infections. Without effective drugs or other remedies the only sensible approach is to prevent the infection from spreading in the first place.

“Currently the risk is minimal as so few cases have been reported but our advice to the public and healthcare professionals is clear,” says Melanie Witt, Infection Control Market Manager at Diversey. “Remain vigilant, choose the right personal hygiene and professional cleaning products and use them properly because this is the best defence against this and many other infections, especially those that are antibiotic resistant.”

Many infections, including the new strains of bacteria containing the NDM-1 gene, spread most easily by person-to-person contact. The best method of prevention is good personal hygiene, and in particular hand hygiene, among healthcare workers, support staff, visitors and patients. The second step is to disinfect hospital wards, beds, treatment rooms and other surfaces that have been used by anyone with, or suspected of having, the infection.

Diversey has long-term experience in working with professionals in hospitals and other parts of the healthcare sector to help them identify, develop and implement the most appropriate and effective cleaning and hygiene processes to prevent and eliminate infections. The company’s products are widely used by healthcare professionals because as a global leader in cleaning and hygiene they have access to a wide range of expertise and resources, to ensure they remain at the forefront of the industry and provide unrivalled support to their customers.

Diversey has established a dedicated website at www.cleanerandhealthier.com to give accurate and timely information and advice on how to combat and prevent a wide range of infections. The site was created as part of the company's global response to the Influenza A (H1N1 swine flu) pandemic and will continue to be updated with relevant information has since been broadened to cover many other diseases.

The company has a complete set of cleaning and hygiene products designed to prevent infections from spreading. These include antiseptic hand rubs and washes, spill-kits for removing infected bodily fluids, building care products for cleaning hospitals and other facilities, and laundry products for the linen and clothing. Each products is designed, and can be shown, to kill specific infections or a broad range of spores, bacteria and viruses that cause them.

Key to Diversey's customer support is its ability to supply the right products when required. During the H1N1 pandemic in 2009, for example, the company was able to increase production of vital products such as hand cleaners and disinfectants to meet the dramatic increase in demand from its customers throughout the UK and around the world.

Further information on 0800 525525 or at www.diversey.com

About Diversey: Diversey, Inc. is committed to a cleaner, healthier future. Its products, systems and expertise make food, drink and facilities safer and more hygienic for consumers and for building occupants. With sales into more than 175 countries, Diversey is a leading global provider of commercial cleaning, sanitation and hygiene solutions. The company serves customers in the building management, lodging, food service, retail, health care, and food and beverage sectors. Diversey is headquartered in Sturtevant, Wisconsin, USA. Diversey, Inc. is formerly JohnsonDiversey, Inc. To learn more, visit www.diversey.com.