

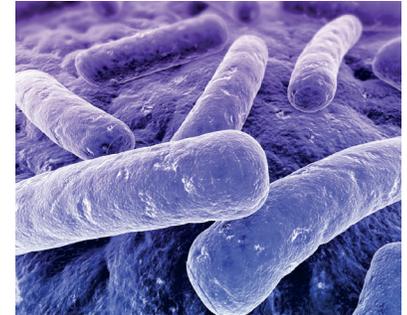
Clostridioides difficile

Fact Sheet



What is it?

According to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), *C. diff* (also known as *Clostridioides difficile* or *C. difficile*) is a germ (bacterium) that causes severe diarrhea and colitis (an inflammation of the colon). It's estimated to cause **almost half a million infections** in the United States each year and at least 14,000 deaths. About **1 in 6 patients** who get *C. diff* will get it again in the subsequent 2-8 weeks. **One in 11 people over age 65** diagnosed with a healthcare-associated *C. diff* infection die within one month. People who are most at-risk for getting *C. diff* include older adults and patients who take antibiotics while receiving medical care. The antibiotics can kill the "good germs," allowing *C. diff* to grow.



Transmission

C. difficile bacteria is found in feces and can be transmitted from person-to-person via high-touch surfaces such as light switches, bed rails, bed pans, linens, remote controls and light switches. Infection can occur if contaminated surfaces are touched prior to contact with mucous membranes or the mouth.

Decontamination of environmental surfaces

C. difficile spores are extremely hard-to-kill. Because of this, many commonly used manual cleaners and disinfectants are not effective against *C. difficile* spores. CDC updated its official guideline in 2019 to recommend, "Use an EPA-registered sporicidal disinfectant in units with high rates of endemic *Clostridium difficile* infection or in an outbreak setting."

UVDI-360 Room Sanitizer: proven elimination of *C. difficile* spores

With a broad array of UV room disinfection devices and claims types, it is incumbent on the healthcare professional to review individual manufacturer's claims against *C. difficile* spores. **The UVDI-360 Room Sanitizer has the highest levels of independently generated evidence to support effectiveness against *C. difficile* spores:**

- **Peer-reviewed published clinical study** focusing on *C. difficile* transmission conducted by the University of Pennsylvania.
- **Proven published clinical studies demonstrating inactivation of *C. difficile* spores** from surfaces, conducted by researchers at UNC Health Care (Dr. William Rutala) and Cleveland Clinic (Dr. Curtis Donskey).
- Independent laboratory testing confirming **99.99% inactivation at 5 minutes at 8 feet or 2.44 meters.**

For additional information and resources, visit uvdi.com or contact your UVDI Account Manager.

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/cdiff/index.html>

² <https://apic.org/resources/topic-specific-infection-prevention/clostridium-difficile/>

³ Pegues, D.A.; Han, J.; Gilmar, C.; McDonnell, B.; Gaynes, S. Impact of Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation for No-Touch Terminal Room Disinfection on Clostridium Difficile Infection Incidence Among Hematology/Oncology Patients. *Infect. Control Hosp. Epidemiol.* 10, 2016

⁴ Rutala, W.A.; Gergen, M.F.; Tande, B.M.; Weber, D.J. Room Decontamination Using an Ultraviolet-C Device with Short Ultraviolet Exposure Time. *Infect. Control Hosp. Epidemiol.* 2014, 35, 1070 -1072.

⁵ Deshpande, A.; Hartley, J.; Cadnum, J.; Jencson, A.; Sankar, T. Effectiveness of an Ultraviolet Light Decontamination Device in Reducing Hospital Room Contamination. SHEA (poster presentation); 2016.