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Section of the indoor environment with bacteria and fungi in Tertiary Health Care and Teaching Hospitals, Department of Environmental Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi, India

The micro flora of any habitat varies with host type, environmental condition and human activities. Hospitals, health care centres are most likely to be infected with fungi and bacteria as they are highly resistant to antibiotics and exhibit a high degree of virulence. To control such infections, the following procedures are recommended:

1. Provide regular and systematic cleaning of all surfaces and equipment.
2. Use disinfectants that have broad-spectrum activity.
3. Ensure proper ventilation and air circulation.
4. Limit the use of immunosuppressive agents.
5. Early detection and isolation of infected patients.

Investigation of the air quality and the quantity of airborne microbes was conducted and a genotyping test of bacteria and fungi was performed in the main hospital of Durban, South Africa. The results were as follows:

- The micro flora of the hospital varied with host type, environmental condition, and human activities.
- Hospitals, health care centres are most likely to be infected with fungi and bacteria as they are highly resistant to antibiotics and exhibit a high degree of virulence.
- To control such infections, the following procedures are recommended:
  1. Provide regular and systematic cleaning of all surfaces and equipment.
  2. Use disinfectants that have broad-spectrum activity.
  3. Ensure proper ventilation and air circulation.
  4. Limit the use of immunosuppressive agents.
  5. Early detection and isolation of infected patients.

In conclusion, the investigation of the indoor environment with bacteria and fungi in Tertiary Health Care and Teaching Hospitals is crucial for the prevention and control of infections. The results suggest that regular cleaning, proper ventilation, and the use of disinfectants can significantly reduce the spread of infections in these environments.