



Xenex Demonstrates UV Room Cleaning System's Effectiveness in Reducing Hospital Acquired Infections

San Antonio-based [Xenex Disinfection Services](#), a leader in ultraviolet environmental disinfection systems, last week demonstrated the effectiveness of its germ-zapping robot in reducing healthcare associated infection (HAI) rates at U.S. hospitals and Veterans Administration facilities. The presentation, entitled "[Technology for Patient Safety at Veterans Hospitals](#)," was made before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Science, Space, and Technology; the Subcommittee on Research and Technology; and the Subcommittee on Oversight.

A study recently published by the [American Journal of Infection Control](#) showed a 20% decrease in hospital-acquired infections rates during a 22-month period where ultraviolet environmental disinfection was implemented, compared with the 30-month period before the UVD was applied. The authors of the study concluded that the use of UVD as an adjunct to routine discharge cleaning of contact precautions rooms was feasible and temporally associated with a significant decrease in hospital-acquired infections. Last week's presentation focused precisely on the results of this and other similar studies.

The purpose of the hearing was to assess the potential benefits of new technologies in the prevention of HAIs. Considering that HAIs are the most common complication of hospital care, with the Centers for Disease Control estimating that 1.7 million HAIs per year cause up to 99,000 deaths annually in the U.S., Xenex's technology helps to meet the need to approach 100% prevention of HAIs as the larger challenge of all U.S. hospitals.

The company presented the results of its patented pulse xenon UV disinfection system, which has been repeatedly shown to integrate smoothly into hospital cleaning operations because of its speed and ease of use. The portable system uses pulsed xenon ultraviolet light to destroy viruses, bacteria and bacterial spores in the patient environment without contact or chemicals. Furthermore, the Xenex system will disinfect dozens of rooms per day, so hospitals use the robot continuously to reduce contamination levels throughout their facilities.

At the hearing, Xenex CEO Morris Miller recalled that six peer-reviewed studies have been published supporting the efficacy of the company's technology, including three where Xenex customers reported significantly reduced HAI rates after implementing the Xenex robot for room disinfection. Taking up to this challenge, he reinforced, quoted by the Herald Online, the Congress should have an opportunity to significantly improve the patients' health, by promoting policies that accelerate the implementation of these technologies.