



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**NEW SUPER BUG CLAIMS ARE WIDE OF THE MARK SAY INFECTION CONTROL EXPERTS**

Claims that a new super bug could be as difficult to treat as MRSA are wide of the mark according to one of the UK's leading infection control companies.

The news that *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia*, commonly known as Steno, has a "remarkable capacity" for drug resistance and could affect up to 1,000 patients in Britain every year, entering the bloodstream and causing septicaemia is a major over claim according to anti-microbial technology company Byotrol plc.

While the paper by scientists at the University of Bristol acknowledges that *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia* is significantly rarer than MRSA, it is not difficult to control and kill according to Stephen Falder of AIM listed Byotrol plc.

Byotrol plc has developed an infection control disinfectant which is revolutionising the way organisations deal with organisms in sectors from health and food manufacture through to agriculture and children's nurseries.

The technology has been proven to be effective against a wide range of resistant and difficult to kill organisms such as MRSA and *C.difficile* and in a study conducted at Glasgow Royal Infirmary over six months, it was shown that the presence of MRSA in a ward could be reduced by more than 50% by applying Byotrol surface cleaner to just 5% of high contact surfaces.

As Falder acknowledges, "Finding antibiotics to treat patients affected by Steno is a major challenge, but finding a technology that can kill and also control has already been achieved.

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Byotrol's infection control technology offers numerous benefits over anything else currently available on the market. As well as being effective against a wide range of organisms including MRSA, VRE and C.difficile, the technology continues to work after it has dried for days after application. This means surfaces treated with Byotrol remain anti-microbial over time making it extremely difficult for organisms to contaminate areas and thus spread.

Other unique attributes of the technology are its low toxicity to humans compared to other commonly used biocides and the fact that no special equipment or techniques are required to apply it making it ideal for use in a hospital setting. Equally important is the fact that the technology degrades into harmless constituents meaning it has an extremely low environmental impact when compared to other substances.

It is this combination of attributes that has seen Byotrol technology adopted in sectors ranging from agriculture where it is used to improve milk quality and yield through to cruise liners where the technology is effective at combating the spread of Noro Virus.

As Stephen Falder points out, "We are looking to create a hygiene revolution with this technology and change the way humans fight micro-organisms, not a species at a time, but by controlling all micro organisms in high care areas so that we do not just lurch from super bug scare to super bug scare.

"It is fair to say that the report raises some valid concerns and highlights the importance of total microbial control, but to suggest Steno is nigh on impossible to control or kill, is overblowing things.

It is a fact of life that we will keep discovering new and potentially dangerous micro-organisms if we try to control them one at a time. The only way forward is to change the way we control such organisms and look to move away from the current approach of periodic decontamination to a permanent and lasting control strategy," Stephen Falder adds.

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For information about how the Byotrol technology works please visit  
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