

Antimicrobial Coatings: Fact and Fiction Separated

As businesses, schools, airports, and other facilities reopen or return closer to previous occupancy levels, facility managers are doing their best to provide safer, healthier environments. With so many new products hitting the market, it is difficult to discern truth from speculation. In partnership with ABM's Expert Advisory Council, below is our position and findings regarding anti-microbial coatings and other "self-cleaning" products.

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Antimicrobial coatings and films have been around for more than 30 years. **However, the** science behind anti-microbial coatings and films continues to develop and be studied.

- Companies claim or imply that these products provide an extended barrier against the COVID-19 virus in some cases up to 90 days after the initial application. There is no independent verification of these claims or set time frame from the EPA / CDC in which these products provide a barrier of protection.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention **has not provided a recommendation** that suggests antimicrobial coatings offer any enhanced protection from the spread of bacteria and germs.
- The EPA and CDC have stated that application of these residual antimicrobials **do not alter the frequencies required for cleaning and disinfection**.
- It is also not clear if the antimicrobial claims would hold up when the facility continues to employ a disinfection program that requires damp wipe disinfecting the same surfaces multiple times per day.
- The cost for these products or their application is often many times higher than our most expensive disinfectant.

As this topic evolves, ABM will continue to review these products as they come to market and the science develops. ABM can install coatings, films, and 'self-cleaning' products in your facility if you find value in these products after considering the talking points above. According to the CDC and EPA, these solutions should not replace disinfection programs.

To learn more, visit ABMEnhancedClean.com. Ready to get started now? Call 866.624.1520 and press 3.



ABM EnhancedClean services are designed to reduce but not eliminate the risks of spreading infectious diseases and viruses. There is no guarantee that the EnhancedClean services or any cleaning services will completely eliminate the risks of spreading infectious diseases and viruses.