



r**bt**

Residual Barrier Technology

Protectus Viridis effective against emerging fungal threats.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) have been sounding the alarm bells on emerging fungal threats. They recently highlighted that cases of invasive fungal disease are expanding globally with rapidly emerging resistance to antifungal treatments¹. Therefore, it's important to make sure hands and surfaces are properly disinfected to guard against the spread of these pathogenic fungi.

Protectus Viridis is an effective surface and hand disinfectant that is 99.999% effective and has residual efficacy; continuing to kill pathogens even after it has dried onto a surface.

There are four pathogens of concern on the WHO fungi critical priority group requiring the most urgent action:

Candida Auris. Only discovered in 2009, this yeast has become a major source of hospital acquired infections and is partially resistant to commonly used disinfectants¹. Protectus Viridis has been tested in independent laboratories as effective against this pathogen within 60 seconds. This pathogen has a high mortality rate, is thermoresistant and can be passed to vulnerable patients through surface or skin contact. It often infects people who have had frequent hospital stays or live in a nursing home.

Candida Albicans. This opportunistic pathogenic yeast can cause invasive candidiasis which can be devastating for critically ill or immunocompromised people. Hospital acquired infections can occur from cross infection with inanimate surfaces, from hands of health care workers or between patients². Effective against *Candida Albicans*, Protectus Viridis should be used as both a surface and hand disinfectant to mitigate risks.

Aspergillus fumigatus. When inhaled, this mould can cause invasive aspergillosis, a life-threatening disease with a very high mortality rate. In immunosuppressed people, including those with asthma, COPD, Flu or Covid-19, it primarily affects the respiratory system but can affect other organs and the nervous system for those who are critically ill^{3 4}. Preliminary independent testing has shown that Protectus Viridis kills *Aspergillus*.

Cryptococcus neoformans. Infections of this are rare in people with fully functioning immune systems. However, it is a serious threat to people with illnesses or taking medication that compromise the immune system⁵. It infects via the lungs and can cause meningitis and encephalitis. We believe that Protectus Viridis will kill this pathogen and are waiting for laboratory testing to become available.

We support the WHO call for a better understanding of, and more research into, effective treatments for these pathogens. Until these are available it is important to prevent their spread from contaminated surfaces and hands by destroying them with an efficacious disinfectant such as Protectus Viridis. Find out more about our disinfectants and hand sanitisers at www.rbt.global.

¹ WHO fungal priority pathogens list to guide research, development and public health action 2022.

² Odds, F. C. (2010). Molecular phylogenetics and epidemiology of *Candida albicans*. *Future Microbiology*, 5(1), 67-79.

³ <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/aspergillosis/>

⁴ Ben-Ami, R. et al. (2010). Enemy of the (immunosuppressed) state: an update on the pathogenesis of *Aspergillus fumigatus* infection, *British Journal of Haematology*. 150(4)

⁵ Tripathi, K. et al. (2012). Hydroxyurea treatment inhibits proliferation of *Cryptococcus neoformans* in mice. *Front Microbial*. 3:187