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ADI TECHNICAL BULLETIN

ADI'S WISEMAN-TUBE* Indicators and Nosocomial Infections



Model ADI-69-V-N



Model ADI-69-V-P



Model ADI-69-VplusA

DISCLAIMER: This bulletin is for information only and is not to be relied upon in making any decisions regarding code issues, which of course should be addressed with your state and local officials, a registered professional engineer, your insurance carrier and any other authority having jurisdiction (AHJ.)

SUBJECT: Nosocomial Infections and the need to Monitor Room Pressure.

DATE: February 8, 2010

ISSUE: We know about infectious isolation rooms to contain a known infection, but what about other rooms that can produce nosocomial (“hospital acquired”) infections? Should other rooms, e.g. Operating Rooms, be monitored for Infection Control?

DISCUSSION: We all are aware of the regulatory guidelines to monitor airborne infectious isolation rooms and protective isolation rooms, but should we monitor Operating rooms and construction zones too? Use your internet search engine: “costs associated with infectious outbreaks in hospitals” and you’ll find many articles dealing with the death of patients and staff as well as the massive costs associated with treating infections in hospitals. For example, Chickenpox, an airborne capable infectious disease was addressed by the NIH:
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/7503436> (see related articles on that page too). For a couple of more recent articles and research see,
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/eid/vol7no2/pdfs/sepkowitz.pdf> and
http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34437115/ns/health-infectious_diseases/from/ET

CONCLUSION: The low cost of room pressure monitoring outweighs the potential costs of not monitoring for an HVAC system that allows the transmission of airborne infectious microbes, including keeping them out of positive pressure Operating Rooms.

Questions, comments, corrections are welcome. Please email brian@airflowdirection.com

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