

Bacterial contamination on surgical drapes – A comment

Dear Editor,

The recent report on bacterial contamination on surgical drapes (Can Vet J 2013;54:1157–1159) is very interesting. Occhipinti et al (1) mentioned that “there was no significant difference in the number of contaminated surgical drapes between the Bair Hugger® and control groups.” In fact, infection control is an important concern in surgery. The use of Bair Hugger® forced air warming system might be a concern for possible contamination. In the past report by Huang et al (2), prolonged use of the Bair Hugger® did also not increase risk of infection in surgery. Indeed, there are several things that can lead to contamination including to the environment and practitioner (3). If good quality control is practiced, contamination might be effectively managed.

References

1. Occhipinti LL, Hauptman JG, Greco JJ, Mehler SJ. Evaluation of bacterial contamination on surgical drapes following use of the Bair Hugger® forced air warming system. Can Vet J 2013;54:1157–1159.
2. Huang JK, Shah EF, Vinodkumar N, Hegarty MA, Greatorex RA. The Bair Hugger patient warming system in prolonged vascular surgery: An infection risk? Crit Care 2003;7:R13–6.
3. Nakamura RK, Tompkins E. Nosocomial infections. Compend Contin Educ Vet 2012;34:E1–10.

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Erratum

Please note that the page numbers in the January 2014 issue were incorrect. The issue should have started with 1 and ended with 96. The error has been corrected on the CVMA website. We apologize for any confusion.

CVJ editors

Veillez noter que les numéros de page du numéro de janvier 2014 étaient incorrects. Le numéro aurait dû commencer par la page numéro 1 et se terminer par la page numéro 96. L'erreur a été corrigée sur le site Web de l'ACMV. Nous nous excusons de la confusion qui a pu être occasionnée.

Les rédacteurs de la *RVC*