

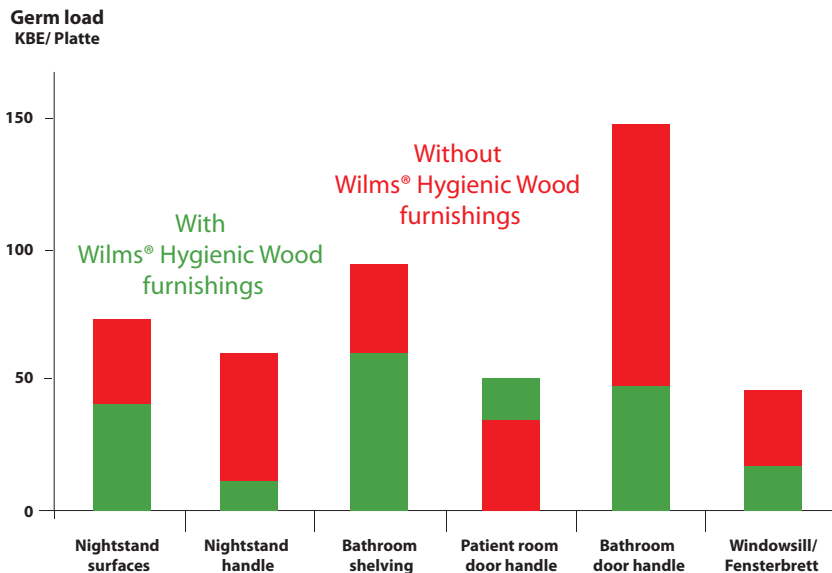
Patient rooms equipped with wooden furnishings

Objective

To evaluate how well the use of Hygienic Wood in hospital rooms reduces germs.

Procedure

The antimicrobial effect of pine heartwood against typical nosocomial bacteria is investigated. Based on the RODAC-imitation procedure, germ-reduction on pine heartwood was compared with that of plastic surfaces – both after being disinfected and without disinfection.



Comparison of Patient rooms with and without wood furnishings *

Results

Without application of disinfectants, significantly fewer germs were present on the two pine species than on the plastic surfaces. When disinfected, there was no significant germ growth except in regard to Sirafan which showed some germ growth, presumably from the interaction of the disinfectant with the ingredients of the wood.

In summary, the study shows the antimicrobial effect of pine heartwood on germs present in a hospital except in regard to Sirafan.

Conclusion

Based on the results of the study, pine heartwood has a positive effect against germs in hospital rooms (Prof. Dr. med Franz Daschner - Institute for Environmental Medicine and Hospital Hygiene).

Implementation



Franz Daschner, Institute for Environmental Medicine and Hospital Epidemiology, Institute for Plant Virology, Microbiology and Biosafety, Messeweg 11/12, 38104 Braunschweig, 2003.

* Data: Daschner, Franz (2003): Comparative one bakteriologische investigations in patient rooms with and without wood equipment and results and questionnaire action with patients and personnel, S. 28; Graphic compilation: Fa. Wilms GmbH

