



Guest Medical

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To whom it may concern:

Effects of Chlorine Solutions on Metals.

Stainless Steel: Chlor-Clean solutions will **not** affect stainless steel of a reasonable quality – in almost 30 years of supplying Chlor-Clean and Haz-Tabs to NHS Hospitals we have received no complaint of them attacking stainless steel.

Chromium: Chromium is unlikely to be affected by chlorine unless the quality is very poor or it has suffered cracks or wear (e.g. chromium plate that is already lifting off the base metal beneath).

Other metals: Chlorine solutions **will** corrode or tarnish ferrous metals, to a greater or lesser extent. For example, mild steel will show pronounced tarnishing after 100 hours immersion in a chlorine solution whereas with galvanised mild steel the effects will be minimal.

Brass and copper will also show pronounced to moderate tarnishing depending on the quality of the metal. Aluminium may be tarnished by chlorine products and care should be taken to follow the advice below especially when disinfecting the fingerplates and handles on doors of isolation rooms and wards where these 'touch points' are made of aluminium.

We have no data on Nickel; however the general advice below will apply.

General Advice:

Tarnishing or corrosion is usually a 'build-up' effect; it is not an instant reaction. Therefore after using chlorine products on untreated metal surfaces, or ones where protective coatings of enamel or chrome have been chipped or worn away, allow 15 minutes contact time and then wash off with clean fresh water and DRY the area carefully. This does not apply to stainless steel (see above).

Signed for and on behalf of Guest Medical Limited

*Natalie Ferguson
Microbiologist and Scientific Advisor: Guest Medical*

Dated: 17th September 2018