CAPABILITY STATEMENT

THE VIOGUARD DEFENDER

19201 120th Ave NE Ste 200
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vioguard.com
**THE PROBLEM**

Healthcare systems are battling to prevent and eliminate Hospital-Acquired Infections (HAIs). Ranked as an urgent threat is *Clostridium difficile* (*C. diff*), a bacteria that can cause symptoms ranging from diarrhea to life-threatening inflammation of the colon. These infections mostly occur in patients who have had recent medical care and antibiotics. *C. diff* infections are most commonly associated with recent antibiotic use, occurring in hospitals and other healthcare facilities where a higher percentage of people carry the bacteria.

A recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) study found that *C. diff* caused almost half a million infections among patients in the U.S. in a single year. An estimated 15,000 deaths are directly attributable to *C. diff* infections, making it a substantial cause of infectious disease death. The CDC estimates up to $3,800,000,000 in medical costs could be saved over five years.

The Vioguard Defender is a game-changing addition to battling HAI transmission.

The keyboard and track pad are exposed to a carefully calculated dose of ultraviolet light (UV-C), killing 99.99 percent of all pathogens on the surface within seconds. Eradication occurs automatically after every use.

A standard keyboard is a weak link in HAI prevention: a difficult to clean, high-touch surface. Keyboards are one of the top surface items touched post-patient contact and reside in every unit and mobile workstation.

**Visualize a patient being transported from a UV-C sanitized OR to UV-C sanitized room. Despite these safeguards, within hours a significant exposure risk is literally rolled to the patient’s bedside.**

**COMPONDING THE PROBLEM**

» Growing usage of workstations on wheels (WOWs) increases the number of keyboards; additional keyboards pose additional risk for cross-contamination.

» Approximately four out of 10 HAIs are attributed to cross-contamination.

» Contaminated surfaces play a major role in transmitting pathogens, including *Clostridium difficile* and other antibiotic-resistant organisms, such as *Staphylococcus aureus*.

» *C. diff* can survive on inanimate surfaces for months.

Vioguard Inc - Small Business Classification
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NAICS Codes 335999/ 334111/ 334510 /423430

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CAGE: 5F7W2
EIN: 26-2917684
Proudly Made in the USA
Current cleaning protocols and personal protective equipment (PPE), like gloves, fall short in mitigating contamination risk.

VA studies indicate that personal protective equipment (PPE) reduces, but does not eliminate, the risk of skin and clothing contamination with pathogens among healthcare personnel.

24 percent of personnel caring for patients with a Clostridium difficile infection (CDI) had spore contamination on their hands after glove removal.

Even when gloves and gowns are worn, 2 percent to 5 percent of personnel caring for patients colonized with multidrug-resistant bacteria acquire the pathogens on their hands after glove removal.

Adding to the challenge: Contamination occurs 70 percent of the time when proper technique is not followed. This means 30 percent contamination occurs when proper technique is followed.

Daily keyboard cleaning protocols, even if followed, are not effective.

Studies show that hospital staff miss 68 percent of high touch surfaces during manual cleaning. Those surfaces may still harbor dangerous superbugs.

C. diff spores are resistant to routine hospital disinfectants and require extra cleaning measures.

Researchers comparing keyboard decontamination methods noted high baseline contamination rates. Post decontamination rates decreased, however remained unacceptably high.

THE SOLUTION
The FDA cleared, Vioguard Defender is a self-sanitizing keyboard and track pad. The system utilizes the germicidal properties of ultraviolet light (UV-C) to disinfect the keyboard after every use. Hospital-borne pathogens can be killed or rendered harmless with the use of UV-C in appropriate dosages by effectively disrupting microorganisms’ DNA and RNA while preventing colonization.

Unlike their resilient response to chemical disinfectants, microorganisms are unable to develop UV-C resistance. Widespread use of antibiotics and disinfectants continue to create chemical and drug-resistant “superbugs,” a CDC urgent threat. The Vioguard solution kills these superbugs and will not create new, resistant microorganisms.

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**WHY VIOGUARD?**

» The Vioguard Defender is 99.99 percent effective in eliminating harmful microorganisms including C. Diff.

» The Defender automatically self-sanitizes after every use. No human intervention is required!

» Vioguard’s patented dosimeter delivers a specific dose of UV-C energy. Once the dosage has been achieved, the cycle stops. Even as the bulbs begin to age, the unit takes that into account and delivers the required dosage by extending the amount of time required for the lights to be working.

» The Vioguard Defender is made in the USA and can be integrated into medical carts, workstations, wall mounts and other custom configurations.