

Dr. Rutala and Weber’s Considerations for Selecting the Optimal Disinfectant for Your Facility

Directions: When determining the optimal disinfecting product for surface disinfection in your facility, consider each of the 5 components below and give each product a score (1 is worst and 10 is best) in each of the 5 categories.

Select the product with the highest score as the optimal product choice

Consideration	Questions to Ask	Score (1-10) Maximum Score is 50
1. Kill Claims	<p>Does the product kill the most prevalent healthcare pathogens, including those that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cause most HAIs? • Cause most outbreaks? • Are of concern in your facility? 	
2. Kill and wet-contact times	<p>How quickly does the product kill the prevalent healthcare pathogens?</p> <p>Does the product keep surfaces visibly wet for the kill times listed on its label?</p>	
3. Safety	<p>Does the product have an acceptable toxicity rating?</p> <p>Does the product have an acceptable flammability rating?</p> <p>Is a minimum level of personal protective equipment required?</p> <p>Is the product compatible with the common surfaces in your facility?</p>	
4. Ease of use	<p>Is the product odor considered acceptable?</p> <p>Does the product have an acceptable shelf life?</p> <p>Does the product come in convenient forms to meet your facility’s needs (eg, liquids, sprays, refills, multiple wipe sizes)?</p> <p>Does the product work in the presence of organic matter? Is the product water soluble?</p> <p>Does the product clean and disinfect in a single step? Are the directions for use simple and clear?</p>	
5. Other factors	<p>Does the supplier offer comprehensive training and ongoing education, both in person and virtual?</p> <p>Does the supplier offer 24-7 customer support?</p> <p>Is the overall cost of the product acceptable (considering product capabilities, costs of infections that may be prevented, and costs per compliant use)?</p> <p>Can the product help standardize disinfectants used in your facility?</p>	