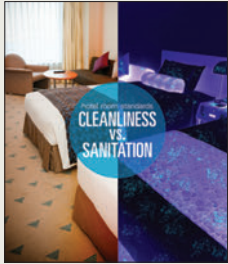


# Environmental Health

**ABOUT THE COVER**



As shown on our cover, hotels often settle for cleanliness vs. sanitation, but our feature this month, “Sanitary Status and Incidence of Methicillin-Resistant

*Staphylococcus aureus* and *Clostridium difficile* Within Canadian Hotel Rooms,” highlights the dangers of that kind of approach. The authors sampled various surfaces from hotel rooms in three cities in Canada. Coliforms were recovered from 36% of surfaces, and oxacillin-resistant bacteria were recovered from 19% of surfaces with 46% of isolates confirmed as methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*. The results of the authors’ study show that more emphasis is needed on sanitizing surfaces in hotel rooms rather than simple cleaning. See page 8.

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