Planning, Equipment and Routines
Infections acquired in health care settings – nosocomial infections – are a major and growing problem. With the emergence and spread of potentially deadly antibiotic-resistant superbugs such as MRSA, effective infection control is more necessary than ever before.

Clearly there is an urgent need for a more effective, comprehensive approach to infection control in order to protect everyone in care facilities – carers, residents, nurses and patients – from nosocomial infections.

ArjoHuntleigh took up the challenge by first identifying the essential conditions to support effective infection control at a care facility. The three basic requirements are defined as the right planning, the proper equipment and smoothly functioning hygiene routines.

These findings became the basis for developing a dynamic infection control concept – Disinfection 8. This figure-eight model clearly shows the flow of benefits that result when the right foundations for infection control are established. Effective infection control can set in motion a chain of positive consequences that enhance residents’ quality of life, improve the working environment for carers and enable facilities to provide better, more cost-effective care.

Disinfection 8 provides insight on infection control and how to introduce best practice. It applies the same successful concept as the Positive 8, a dynamic model developed by ArjoHuntleigh to show the benefits in the care process that stem from optimum conditions for promoting resident mobility.

With unrivalled experience and expertise in four core areas – Infection Control, Injury Prevention, Resident Care and Facility Planning – ArjoHuntleigh can provide the support, systems and solutions to maximise Disinfection 8 benefits at your care facility.
The Resident
1. A good hygienic environment
2. Reduced risk of cross contamination
3. A healthier stay for the resident
4. Increased quality of life

The Caregiver
5. Decreased need for medical treatment
6. Healthier staff
7. Reduced number of sick days
8. Reduced costs and enhanced quality of care

Disinfection 8 is a dynamic model that shows the flow of positive consequences when conditions at a facility support effective infection control. This figure 8 clearly charts the complete cycle that promotes benefits for residents and carers.

The decisive factors for infection control – planning, equipment and routines – act as switching points between the two circles. The top circle follows the chain of health and quality of life benefits for the resident. As the residents’ need for medical treatment decreases this activates the benefits for the carer shown in the lower circle.

Nosocomial infections cause needless human suffering around the world, impose a huge financial burden on the healthcare sector and claim thousands of lives every year.

In the United States alone over 2 million nosocomial infections are registered annually and around 90,000 individuals – that is one every 6 minutes – die from infections they acquire in healthcare settings.

– Anders Håkansson, PhD and Instructor in Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School.
What happens when you put the optimum conditions for a good hygienic environment in place? The residents are the first to benefit. Disinfection 8 shows the chain of benefits that is activated, bringing considerable improvements in residents’ health and well-being.

The upper circle, steps 1-4, focuses on the resident.

It is possible to activate or improve the Disinfection 8 at all care facilities and substantially enhance residents’ quality of life. The right planning, correct equipment and smoothly functioning hygiene routines set the Disinfection 8 in motion.
1 **A good hygienic environment**
A high standard of hygiene is vital at all care facilities. This applies especially in elderly care. Our immune systems become less robust as we get older. When the elderly live in a communal setting this increases the risk of infection transmission.

2 **Reduced risk of cross contamination**
A comprehensive infection control strategy combining planning, equipment and hygiene routines offers the best possible protection. This is the optimum basis for reducing the volume of microorganisms in the environment, and thus the risk of cross contamination.

3 **A healthier stay for the resident**
As the risk of infection is reduced, the resident has a healthier stay at the care facility. Care periods become shorter and the use of antibiotics decreases. The physical and mental well-being of residents improves and they become more active.

4 **Increased quality of life**
Systematically applying good hygiene practices creates an environment with a lower risk of infection, care recipients become healthier and it becomes possible to improve mobility. The positive outcome for residents is an improved quality of life.
As the first four steps of Disinfection 8 show, optimum conditions for infection control lead to healthier residents. And when residents feel better, this also brings benefits for carers. This is where the two circles of the figure 8 intersect.

The lower circle of the Disinfection 8, steps 5-8, track the positive effects of optimum infection control for the carer and care facility.

Carers at care facilities are, like the residents, at risk from infections. Unless rigorous infection control routines are in place carers can also unknowingly act as agents in spreading infection – about 50% of all nosocomial infections stem from poor hand hygiene. The same basis for optimum infection control – planning, equipment and routines – improves the health of carers as well as residents.
5 **Decreased need for medical treatment**
When residents are healthier, staff can benefit from a lighter workload. Fewer residents require treatment-intensive isolation. Use of antibiotics decreases. Residents in general need less treatment. In many cases they are more mobile and require less assistance.

6 **Healthier staff**
Working in accordance with the Disinfection 8 creates a better, healthier working environment. With the Four Cornerstone principle for the sluice room (page 10) and the Clean Hands on Clean Goods rule (page 8), staff are far less at risk from infection.

7 **Reduced number of sick days**
As carers are less exposed to infection risks in a facility where Disinfection 8 functions, this reduces the number of sick days. Healthier staff in a good working environment feel more job satisfaction, which helps to minimise staff turnover.

8 **Reduced costs and enhanced quality of care**
Following the Disinfection 8 can enhance efficiency and quality of care while reducing costs in the short and long term. Cost-reduction factors include shorter care periods, healthier and more productive staff, lower staff turnover and utilising reusable articles.
Provisioning total support for disinfection 8

ArjoHuntleigh can help your care facility work in accordance with Disinfection 8 and achieve maximum benefits from this new total infection control concept. With expertise in four related areas – Injury Prevention, Resident Care, Facility Planning and Infection Control – ArjoHuntleigh is the ideal partner to ensure Disinfection 8 becomes an integral part of the way you work.

The prerequisites for effective infection control relate to the right planning, equipment and routines. ArjoHuntleigh provides a total solution – consultant-assisted planning, high quality equipment, and hygiene routine support – to help you put all three basic conditions in place.

**Planning**
Good planning is the first step to activating Disinfection 8. ArjoHuntleigh has extensive experience in facility planning. Our well trained CAPN consultants use the ArjoHuntleigh Guidebook for Architects and Planners to help you apply Disinfection 8 successfully at your care facility. The consultant will assist in the planning of a customised central sluice room based on the Four Cornerstones, an ArjoHuntleigh design principle that secures good infection control.

**Equipment**
A flusher disinfector is of vital importance to the infection control capability of the sluice room. ArjoHuntleigh offers a range of flusher disinfectors that effectively clean and disinfect goods such as urine bottles and bedpans for reuse. ArjoHuntleigh can advise you on which machine is best suited for your new or existing sluice room.

**Routines**
Disinfection 8 cannot be implemented without good hygiene routines. The expertise ArjoHuntleigh has gained in infection control make it a valuable resource for training and common sense guidelines on best hygiene practice. Arjo-Huntleigh promotes a core concept for effective infection control routines – *Clean Hands on Clean Goods* – which stipulates that clean and disinfected goods must never be touched or handled with unclean hands.
Disinfection 8 is a continuous improvement loop. The resulting cost savings can be reinvested in maintaining or improving the basic conditions that drive the Disinfection 8 – planning, equipment and routines.

Cost savings from Disinfection 8

Effective infection control saves money. The cost of treating one individual with MSRA is estimated to be USD 8,000-10,000.

Disinfection 8 helps care facilities reduce costs by:

- Reusing articles. Circulation goods are cleaned and disinfected in ArjoHuntleigh flusher disinfectors, reducing the consumption of disposable items. In daily operations this can mean running cost reductions in many cases 50% or more.
- Shortening stays in care facilities.
- Making staff healthier and reducing sick days.
- Promoting increased job satisfaction and decreasing staff turnover.
A WELL PLANNED SLUICE ROOM SOLUTION...

Care facilities and hospitals need a continuous flow of disinfected goods from their sluice rooms. A well-planned, optimum sluice room plays a central role in effective infection control and is critical for successfully implementing Disinfection 8.

ArjoHuntleigh can help you plan, design and equip a sluice room that is ideal for your facility’s specific needs. Our sluice room solution will help you to establish, maintain and benefit from the Disinfection 8 concept.

An ArjoHuntleigh sluice room solution is always based on the Four Cornerstones. These four features are essential for maintaining good working practices and achieving a high level of infection control.

1. Soiled area – a collection point for soiled goods separated from clean areas.
2. Hand wash station – a conveniently sited hand washbasin and accessories.
3. Flusher disinfector – for automated cleaning and disinfection of various bedpans, urine bottles or commode buckets.
4. Clean storage area – a storage location for clean goods separated from soiled areas.

ArjoHuntleigh provides a range of sluice room elements such as cabinets, hand wash stations and flusher disinfectors. These elements are designed as modular solutions giving a high degree of design flexibility when planning an optimum sluice room.
Effective infection control in line with the 8 requires the right equipment in the sluice room to clean and disinfect circulating goods.

ArjoHuntleigh flusher disinfectors efficiently fulfill this requirement by emptying, cleaning and thermally disinfecting soiled receptacles automatically to ensure a secure supply of clean articles. The soiled goods such as bedpans or urine bottles are placed in a suitable holder, the appropriate program is activated and after 3-7 minutes the goods are again ready for use. ArjoHuntleigh has developed a range of flusher disinfectors to offer different features and installation possibilities that fit in with the design of optimised sluice rooms.

**Typhoon**
Typhoon is a fully automatic flusher disinfector. This proven machine has been redesigned with new innovative features such as the built-in glass window – VIP (View in Process) and a rotating holder to automatically empty soiled receptacles.

**Tornado**
This front-loaded flusher disinfector now offers improved performance for even better infection control. Different models – wall-mounted, under counter and free-standing (with or without an automatic door) – mean flexibility when planning sluice rooms.

**Amigo**
The top-loaded Amigo flusher disinfector has a foot-operated automatic lid and a built-in slop basin. This makes it suitable not only for commonly used circulation goods such as bedpans, urine bottles and suction bottles but also for commode- and mopp buckets.

**Ninjo**
Ninjo is an effective flusher disinfector with a high design element – a new colour shape and feel – that makes the sluice room a more attractive place to work in. It is an integral part of the total Ninjo sluice room concept that includes furnishing elements.
A range of concept tools is available to give you a deeper insight into Disinfection 8 and how to apply it at your care facility. Take the next step towards Disinfection 8 with our concept and product videos and the ARJO Guidebook and Architect's Tool.

**The Disinfection 8 Concept Video on DVD** provides an easily accessible step-by-step guide showing the Disinfection 8 in motion and the flow of benefits for residents and carers that results. It also covers key concepts for infection control: the Four Cornerstones for sluice room design and “Clean hands on clean goods” for effective everyday hygiene routines.

**Product Videos on DVD** are available for most of the flusher disinfectors in the ArjoHuntleigh range: Ninja, Tornado and Typhoon. Flusher disinfectors play a vital role in an overall infection control strategy that promotes Disinfection 8. These videos look at the function, operation and key features of the products and show how they fit into a well-planned sluice room.

**The ARJO Guidebook and Architect’s Tool** is a book and CD package full of practical, expert advice on planning well-functioning care facilities that provide quality care and follow the Disinfection 8. You gain easy access to in-depth knowledge on areas such as Injury Prevention, Resident Care and Infection Control. Valuable tips are given on sufficient working space, the right choice of equipment and many other aspects in the design of an optimal sluice room. The ARJO Guidebook and Architect’s Tool help care facility management and architects find optimum solutions in the planning process.

For more information regarding our products visit www.ArjoHuntleigh.com