

STETHOSCOVER

THE TRUTH ABOUT STETHOSCOPES

Studies show that unprotected stethoscopes increase the risk of hospital-acquired infections.



85%

Average stethoscope contamination rate¹

75%

Average number of clinicians not disinfecting in between patients¹



WHERE IS THE GAP ACCORDING TO RESEARCH?



DIAPHRAGM CONTACT WITH THE SKIN

Comparable level of contamination with the patient's skin²



COMPARABLE TO THE HANDS

Comparable level of contamination with the clinicians' hands³



LACK OF CLEANING BY CLINICIANS

Majority of clinicians do not disinfect in between patient encounters⁴



INEFFECTIVE CLEANING METHODS

Cleaning practices may only be partially effective in eliminating bacterial DNA.⁵



STETHOSCOVER'S SOLUTION

- ✓ Latex-free barrier for the diaphragm protects the patient's skin
- ✓ Touch-free, automated application
- ✓ More efficient workflow than cleaning
- ✓ Lower cost alternative to disposables
- ✓ No acoustic interference



Links to Studies

1. APIC Issue Brief - Strategies to Mitigate Cross Contamination of Non-Critical Medical Devices
2. Predictors of Heavy Stethoscope Contamination Following a Physical Examination
3. Contamination of Stethoscopes and Physicians' Hands After a Physical Examination
4. Stethoscope Cleaning Standards May Not Eliminate Bacterial Contamination



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