

Truth About Antimicrobials

- There is no evidence that they do anything to protect your health. The only way to reduce the spread of infection is through proper sanitization of surfaces, not by adding antimicrobials.
- The FDA, in 2017, banned the use of antimicrobials in hand soap because they are ineffective and can cause harm.
- Top design firms such as Perkins & Will and major end users such as Kaiser Permanente and other Healthier Hospitals Initiative member facilities will not use antimicrobials for fear that they actually harm the environment and human health. For instance:
 - The widespread use of antimicrobials is thought to contribute to the formation of resistant strains of bacteria that do not respond to medicine, making treatment of illness ineffective.
 - Some are considered toxic to aquatic life, persist in the environment and can be harmful to human organs
- The use of antimicrobials can lead to a false sense of security in staff, minimizing proper follow through on more proactive and proven infection control protocol.