Cleanliness and Sanitation in Morgan Dining Hall

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Cleanliness and Sanitation in Morgan Dining Hall

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Abstract

Infectious diseases are common among college students and their spread is exacerbated by widespread use of Morgan Dining Hall. Two methods that were examined as potential solutions were: the application of Microban, and the hiring of additional workers. Microban was found to be the more cost-effective option. There is the potential to drastically reduce the spread of infectious diseases through Microban's ability to stop and prevent bacterial multiplication.

Methods/Procedure

Option 1
One of the options considered was to hire extra staff members. However, we sought other solutions due to the minimum $12,000 - $18,000 annual salary per worker.

Option 2
Microban only requires one application and will last the lifetime of the product. However, annual or bi-annual application may still be considered as an option. The procedure would be as follows:

- Estimate amount of Microban needed
- Purchase appropriate amount of Microban
- Close Morgan Dining Hall to allow for cleaning
- Apply Microban to selected surfaces
- Let dry and re-open Morgan Dining Hall.

Results

Cost of hiring additional Morgan Dining Hall worker: $12,000-$18,000
Cost of Microban: $90 for three gallons

Need: To understand how policies and conditions in Morgan Dining Hall facilitate the spread of infectious diseases among WPI students.

Approach: Investigate current Morgan Dining Hall policy.

Conclusions/Recommendations

After investigation, Morgan Dining Hall food preparation and handling procedure was found to be upheld to high standards. However, there is concern whenever students serve themselves or directly handle food, including but not limited to stations where tongs are used and drink/cereal dispensing machines. We determined that Microban was the most viable option to best satisfy the aforementioned concerns. Further applications could include the widespread use of Microban in restrooms, the gymnasium and on door handles, shower knobs, and faucets.

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References


Health Services (2011, November 20th). Personal interview.