



Fighting against MERS in Saudi Arabian central hospitals

Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) coronavirus has reached epidemic proportions in Saudi Arabia and has spread to neighbouring countries, lately also to Korea and China. MERS is related to SARS, but has a higher morbidity rate, approximately 36 % whereas it is less than 10 % for SARS patients.

To prevent infection of healthcare providers and other patients, MERS patients need to be isolated rapidly. When the epidemic struck, hospitals in Saudi Arabia were not ready for the amount of patients that desperately needed isolation rooms.

Moreover, existing isolation rooms with HEPA filters faced problems: in Dammam Central Hospital, air pressure could not be kept stable and the quality of air varied so that the staff could not be certain of its safety and purity. When the filters needed changing, the isolation rooms had to be evacuated. HEPA filters had even been found guilty of causing contaminations.

After these experiences, the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Health has given an official recommendation for using Genano units in hospitals.

With the help of Genano air decontamination units, Saudi Arabian hospitals and other healthcare facilities have been able to treat patients safely and without the risk of additional virus infections. Genano has helped build new isolation rooms rapidly and installed air decontamination units to keep patients, visitors and health care professionals safe.

Several units have been installed in hospitals, for example in Dammam area, Jazan and Al-Ahsa. Genano is also used in pathogen diagnostics facilities, and isolation rooms and PCR clean-rooms of the Ministries of Agriculture and Health.

Dammam Central Hospital has reported that using Genano air decontamination units has been very successful.

- As the devices use a different technology from HEPA filters, there is no risk of infection through the device itself.
- Air pressure in the isolation rooms has been stable, which it was not previously with HEPA filter purifiers.
- The isolation rooms could be used continuously, since there is no need for filter changes in the Genano air decontamination units.
- The users are satisfied with the constant good quality of clean air and can now be certain that the air is clean and safe.

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More information on Genano air purifiers:
www.genano.com