Through the implementation of the German Diagnosis Related Grouping (DRG) system and the resulting cost pressure, the need for optimized use and operation of the premises in hospitals is growing. The link between primary processes and facility management (FM) services, however, is missing. Therefore the Chair for Facility Management at the University of Karlsruhe (Germany) analyzed the interdependencies between facility management performance, costs, and primary processes in hospitals. This project is abbreviated, in German, OPIK – optimization and analysis of hospital processes.

**Process-Oriented Cost Model**

The treatment of patients in hospitals can be described by a clinical path that is interpreted in terms of space. Figure 1 illustrates this – the patient’s way through the hospital follows a certain path, symbolized by the black line. Along this, the patient requires specific functions from various entities. Depending on each function, differing infrastructure services are necessary – symbolized by the grey circles. At the level of space, primary and infrastructure services are the most important functions. The relation between primary and FM processes can be separated into fixed and variable costs. "Sterile Goods supply" is part of the variable costs. When changing intervention activities in the OR from one shift to two shifts per day and assuming similar workload, it may be assumed that these costs will double in a linear manner.

**Sterile Goods Supply in the OR**

Figure 2 shows the average cost shares of the OR costs. The relation between primary and FM processes can be separated into fixed and variable costs. "Sterile Goods supply" is part of the variable costs. When changing intervention activities in the OR from one shift to two shifts per day and assuming similar workload, it may be assumed that these costs will double in a linear manner.

**Significant Effect on Skin Flora**

Trevira Bioactive is kind to the skin – as confirmed by a study of the Hohenstein Institute, which specializes in the physiology of clothing.

Can wearing antimicrobial clothing in Trevira Bioactive exercise a negative effect on the skin flora? Does Trevira Bioactive interfere in the total number of germs on the skin. In addition, the most important indicator of the protective function of the skin, "transdermal water loss" (TEWL), stays unchanged when wearing Trevira Bioactive. There is also no alteration in the pH value and surface temperature of the skin.

In comparison: in contrast to wearing clothing made from permanently anti-

Contact:

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Renovation Work in Jordania

Thanks to the funding of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), renovation and expansion work in the Maan hospital in Jordan is now complete.

The upgraded facilities were inaugurated in the middle of May by the Minister of Health Salah Mawajdeh and USAID Mission Director Jay Knott. The new facilities include a renovated delivery ward, obstetrics and paediatric departments, and operating theatre. After the renovation, the hospital is equipped with state-of-the-art medical equipment and furniture which are crucial to the safety and quality of the services provided to the women and newborns in Maan, according to a statement released by USAID.

The renovation work was designed to meet the functional, infrastructure, and infection control requirements in accordance with international standards (AIAD-Standard), as well as linen hire and research. The Texcare Forum was also given a good reception by all visitors and well attended,” said Friedrich Eberhard, Vice President of the German Dry Cleaning Association. “The most important topics at this year’s Texcare were: energy efficiency, environmental conservation, and the linkage of mechanical units for greater efficiency and economy.”

New technologies supporting logistics were also at the top of the agenda – in particular at the booths of Tagesy, Sokymat – where the Miniature Laundry Tag S-Tag10 was presented – and Datamars. The Swiss RFID specialist Datamars announced, in Frankfurt, a partnership with the Dutch logistics vendor ABS Laundry Business Solutions. A modular approach is the partners’ reply to increasing demand in handling industrial and rental textiles, speakers said at the press conference. “Our objective is to ensure that (RFID) technology is accessible to businesses of all sizes, by bundling hardware and software components to deliver total customized ID solutions that are affordable and truly meet the individual needs and budget of our customers. Our alliance with the leading automation and logistics solutions provider for the textile rental business worldwide, ABS, reflects this objective,” underlined Ken Boyle, Chief Marketing Officer at Datamars.

The next Texcare is to take place four years from now.

Michael Reiter