



SPRING 2026 NEWSLETTER



We are delighted to share the latest updates from Clean Hospitals. Our goal is to unite academia, industry, and healthcare institutions to foster meaningful collaboration and innovation in healthcare environmental hygiene (HEH) and hand hygiene (HH). We strive to promote best practices and evidence-based solutions that enhance hygiene standards and patient safety across healthcare settings.

We actively support and advance academic research in HEH and HH, while building a strong network for members to exchange knowledge, share expertise, and collaborate on joint initiatives.

NEW LEADERSHIP

In September 2025, the organization marked an important leadership transition, as its long-standing president and founder, Prof. Didier Pittet, passed the role to Dr. Alexandra Peters. Dr. Peters, who has been closely involved with Clean Hospitals since its establishment in 2018, and was leading its scientific research, now steps into the presidency, continuing to guide the organization's mission forward.

Dr. Peters is an internationally recognized expert in HEH, HH, and infection prevention, with extensive experience in research, innovation, and multi-stakeholder collaboration. As President, she leads the strategic development of Clean Hospitals and actively champions evidence-based approaches to advancing hygiene standards across healthcare settings.

Under her leadership, a dedicated internal team has been established: Martina Močenić, PhD Candidate, MSN, ICN, RN leads the education program, Elleni Rioja, MPH provides administrative and project support, and most recently, Paulo Brois, MSN, DVM, RN supports research efforts as a Scientific Collaborator.

We are also proud to highlight our Scientific Board, composed of internationally renowned leaders in environmental hygiene, including Prof. Brett Mitchell, Prof. David Weber, Prof. Stephanie Dancer, Dr. Pierre Parneix, and Prof. Martin Kiernan alongside two non-voting representatives elected from the industry.

OUR ACTIVITIES

THINK TANKS & SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS

As part of Clean Hospitals' activities, lectures by members of our international expert network, as well as scientific sessions by our member company scientists, have been held on a regular basis, with the aim of encouraging open dialogue and the exchange of knowledge and experience around key topics related to hand hygiene and healthcare environmental hygiene. These scientific talks are open to all stakeholders, partners, and professionals from healthcare facilities participating in Clean Hospitals, with unlimited attendance for each organization.

This year began with -

- Prof. David Weber – Presented “The New Paradigm for Infection Prevention & Control Departments” at the start of the year
- Prof. Vincent Chi-Chung Cheng & Prof. Shuk Ching Wong – Jointly presented “From Neglect to Necessity: The Evolution of Hand Hygiene in the Healthcare System in Hong Kong” in February
- Dr. Marcus Rudolf Götz (Director, R&D) and Dr. Martin May (Senior Scientist, Toxicology) of Bode Chemie GmbH – presented “The Ethanol Debate: A Case Where Science and Politics Converge.”

→ Looking ahead, on May 19th, Prof. Darla Goeres will present “Navigating the interconnected path of model design, validated standard methods, and regulatory decision making for biofilm claims.”

To stay informed about upcoming events, visit the Clean Hospitals website (<https://cleanhospitals.com/calendar-of-events/>) & follow us on [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#).

WORKING GROUPS

As part of our mission to expand knowledge and increase visibility of HEH, we have developed a series of dedicated working groups to focus on key topics to further advance development and research in HEH and HH.

Our working groups are established to address specific priority areas and are led by academic and/or industry experts. This approach ensures both scientific rigor and meaningful, practice-oriented impact. There are currently five active groups supporting and strengthening our mission:

- The **Floor Cleaning and Disinfection** group is advancing evidence-based recommendations for floors in healthcare settings.
- The **Ethanol as a Biocide** group is working on preventing the classification of ethanol in Europe.
- The **Lexicon** group is working on a glossary for HEH through expert consensus.
- The **Clean Hospitals Day** group is developing and preparing a promotional toolkit and materials for October 20th.
- The **Marketing to Healthcare Facilities** group is developing outreach and marketing efforts to increase the visibility of Clean Hospitals.

COUNTRY LEADS

One of our latest developments of Clean Hospitals is the appointment of Country Leads, who play a key role in bringing their country's perspective into the Clean Hospitals network. They contribute to discussions and working groups, helping to ensure that different healthcare systems, cultural contexts, and operational constraints are considered. Another important part of the Country Lead role is acting as a link to encourage engagement between Clean Hospitals and healthcare facilities in their country. They also play an active role in promoting and supporting the celebration of Clean Hospitals Day annually on the 20th of October.

Do you already know who the Country Lead for your country is? If your country does not yet have one and you believe you have the right profile and are a leader in your local context with strong engagement and commitment to infection prevention and hygiene, don't hesitate to contact us (info@cleanhospitals.com).

HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

Until September 2025, the Clean Hospitals Network was built around three core pillars: the Academic Taskforce, Industry Stakeholders, and the International Expert Network. These groups formed the foundation of the network and drove its strategic, scientific, and industry-related activities.

From September 2025 onward, the network has expanded to include healthcare facilities, and Clean Hospitals has evolved into a true partner organization. This development marks an important milestone, strengthening collaboration among academia, industry, experts, and healthcare institutions, and enhancing the practical impact of the network's activities.

Members will have access to all Clean Hospitals events, expert forums, and collaborative research opportunities, with no limit on the number of participants from each facility. If you are seeking a place for education, knowledge sharing, and access to the latest information in HEH and HH, sign up your hospital and become part of our network. Together, we make healthcare safer for our patients.

Sign up here: <https://cleanhospitals.com/healthcare-facilities/>



OUR INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to our institutional partners, whose collaboration is vital to advancing Clean Hospitals' mission. Through shared expertise, research, and global engagement, these partnerships help strengthen the implementation of environmental hygiene practices and support alignment with international public health priorities, including those of the World Health Organization.

By working alongside these leading institutions and a growing network of global collaborators, our partners contribute to a collective, evidence-based approach to improving patient safety and reducing healthcare-associated infections.



CLEAN HOSPITALS DAY

Clean Hospitals Day, on October 20th, is a day to remember and celebrate every year in your institution. The Clean Hospitals Day working group is actively preparing slogans and promotional materials and will be released soon.

Last year's campaign slogan was "Human factors and Collaboration". The promotional material was translated into 17 languages and is available for free download on our website. We look forward another worldwide celebration this year.

STAKEHOLDERS SHOUT-OUT

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the industry stakeholders of the Clean Hospitals initiative, whose shared commitment continues to advance environmental hygiene and infection prevention worldwide. We also welcome new stakeholders who share our mission and vision: to connect and empower a global community dedicated to improving environmental hygiene in healthcare. Participation is possible for companies committed to transparency, collaboration, and continuous improvement in infection prevention.

Thank you for your ongoing engagement and support of this global movement to make hospitals safer worldwide.





ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Professor Didier Pittet for his leadership and commitment to advancing environmental hygiene in healthcare. Through his work in hand hygiene as well as founding the Clean Hospitals Initiative, he has helped bring together a global community dedicated to improving infection prevention practices and raising standards worldwide. His longstanding collaboration with institutions such as the University of Geneva Hospitals and the World Health Organization has contributed to a global, evidence-based approach to safer healthcare environments. His work continues to inspire hospitals, healthcare workers, and global organizations to strengthen hygiene systems, and work collectively toward reducing healthcare-associated infections.

CLOSING REMARKS

Clean Hospitals was present at InterClean Amsterdam from April 14th–17th, the world’s leading exhibition for the professional cleaning and hygiene sector. We partnered with InterClean to create the interactive Healthcare Experience designed to “make the invisible visible.”

Please contact us directly at info@cleanhospitals.com to explore potential membership or partnership opportunities. Follow us on LinkedIn and Facebook.

We hope you’ll join us in creating lasting change in patient safety through improved hygiene!

