

# Infection Control

## Pathogen Primer

### Acinetobacter

#### About Corona bacteria

Acinetobacter is a group of bacteria (germs) commonly found in the environment, like in soil and water. While there are many types, the most common cause of infections is *Acinetobacter baumannii*, which accounts for most *Acinetobacter* infections in humans.

*Acinetobacter baumannii* can cause infections in the blood, urinary tract, and lungs (pneumonia), or in wounds in other parts of the body. It can also “colonize” or live in a patient without causing infections or symptoms, especially in respiratory secretions (sputum) or open wounds.

These bacteria are constantly finding new ways to avoid the effects of the antibiotics used to treat the infections they cause. Antibiotic resistance occurs when the germs no longer respond to the antibiotics designed to kill them. If they develop resistance to the group of antibiotics called carbapenems, they become carbapenem-resistant. When resistant to multiple antibiotics, they're multidrug-resistant. Carbapenem-resistant *Acinetobacter* are usually multidrug-resistant.

#### Who is at risk?

*Acinetobacter* infections typically occur in people in healthcare settings. People most at risk include patients in hospitals, especially those who:

- are on breathing machines (ventilators)
- have devices such as catheters
- have open wounds from surgery
- are in intensive care units
- have prolonged hospital stays

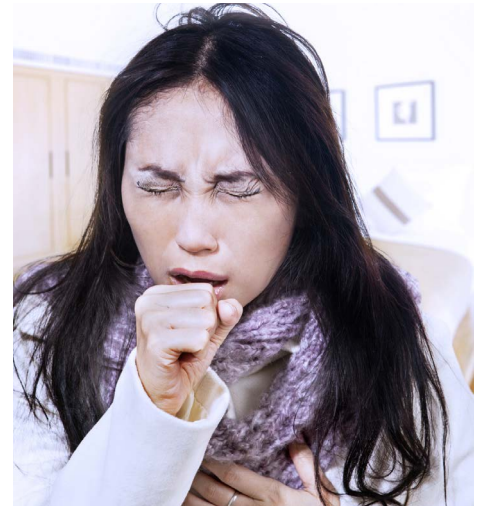
In the United States, *Acinetobacter* infections rarely occur outside of healthcare settings. However, people who have weakened immune systems, chronic lung disease, or diabetes may be more susceptible.

#### How is it spread?

*Acinetobacter* can live for long periods of time on environmental surfaces and shared equipment if they are not properly cleaned. The germs can spread from one person to another through contact with these contaminated surfaces or equipment or through person to person spread, often via contaminated hands.

#### Multi-Clean Disinfectants with Acinetobacter Claims

- Millennium Q 64
- E-Fecticide 128
- Century Q 256



**Multi-Clean®**