A randomised controlled study of the effectiveness of a cleaning bundle intervention to reduce healthcare associated infections in eleven Australian hospitals 2016-2017

The REACH study is funded by an NHMRC partnership grant (GNT1076006) and is led by Queensland University of Technology (QUT) and Wesley Medical Research in collaboration with industry, policy and professional partners.

Contamination of the patient environment in the health care setting is linked to the risk of health care associated infections (HAIs)\(^1\), with around 200,000 HAIs in Australian acute healthcare facilities each year\(^1\).

\textit{Hospital cleaning is usually taken for granted but it is invaluable in preventing hospital acquired infections} \\
\textit{Prof. Christian Gercke, Chief-Investigator}

The REACH study aims to evaluate the impact of a new ‘bundle’ approach to hospital cleaning on the transmission of healthcare associated infections (HAIs) in hospitals. In 2016-2017, eleven major hospitals will each receive tailored training and support as part of a stepped wedge randomised controlled trial, to implement and evaluate the cleaning bundle intervention.

\textit{Cleaners play such an important role in hospitals, and we see this project as empowering them with more knowledge} \\
\textit{Dr Lisa Hall, Chief-Investigator}

The Cleaning Bundle Intervention

The REACH study cleaning bundle comprises five interdependent components:

- Communication
- Training
- Audit
- Product
- Technique