IN THE LOOP

Ultraviolet Disinfection vs. Human Coronaviruses

Ultraviolet (UV) disinfection technologies for biologically contaminated air and surfaces have been highlighted by the global health crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Currently, various establishments such as health care facilities, shopping malls, and airports have been utilizing UV disinfection devices to sterilize highly exposed surfaces and circulating air flows. In addition, UV sterilization is also used to sanitize doorknobs, personal protective equipment, and purify enclosed spaces. The commonly utilized UV light type is called the far-UVC light which provides a short-range wavelength of 207 nm to 222 nm. This UV light efficiently and safely inactivates airborne human coronaviruses including the SARS-CoV-2.

ULTRAVIOLET (UV) DISINFECTION

Two adjacent thymine residues

DNA helix

UV disinfection system is where the UV radiation, generated by an electrical discharge through mercury vapor, targets an organism's DNA and RNA, commonly incurring damage by causing the formation of thymine dimers which impedes the organism's ability to replicate, infect, and reproduce.



Thymine-thymine dimer

Figure 1. Molecule dimerization particularly Thymine upon exposure to UVC.

UV radiation from the sun

ESCO LIFESCIENCES SOLUTIONS

Secure your laboratory against human coronaviruses including SARS-CoV-2 with Esco Lifesciences' solutions. These can be equipped with UV disinfection features that are proven effective for the decontamination of the work zone, hence, preventing possible product contamination and unnecessary pathogen exposure of the user.



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