

## Shedding Light on UV Disinfection Technology



More than a century ago, the first research findings were released demonstrating that direct sunlight is quickly fatal to most bacteria. Since that time, extensive research has confirmed that UV is beneficial in reducing environmental pathogens and protecting healthcare patients and building occupants from contaminated air, surfaces, and water. The use of UV has resulted in a non-chemical, 'no-touch' step following cleaning in environmental disinfection programs. In partnership with ABM's Expert Advisory Council, below is our position and findings regarding UV disinfection technology:

*ABM EnhancedClean services are designed to reduce but not eliminate the risks of spreading infectious diseases and viruses. There is no guarantee that the EnhancedClean services or any cleaning services will completely eliminate the risks of spreading infectious diseases and viruses.*

-  There are **multiple** systems/methods for implementing UV disinfection, including: installed lighting, HVAC systems, upper room systems, and mobile systems.
-  The CDC has recognized UV-C (Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation) as **effective** for water, air, and surface disinfection treatments (in combination with proper cleaning, as heavy surface soil can block UV light).
-  While the technology seems straightforward, multiple major factors determine UV's efficacy against **bacteria**, including the wavelength of the UV, the length of time the microorganism is exposed to UV, and the intensity of the UV.
-  To balance the critical need for air and surface disinfection utilizing UV technologies, products should be **vett**ed for safety and efficacy.
-  While multiple methods of UV disinfection are effective when used correctly, ABM **does not recommend** wand devices. A major challenge for these devices is the inability of the light source to emit the UV intensity and dosage required for disinfection.

UV light technology is an effective tool to complement a comprehensive cleaning and disinfection program. However, the right method of deployment and proper training is essential to ensure efficacy and safety. Additionally, UV light alone is not enough to achieve thorough disinfection and must be paired with manual cleaning in order to provide safer, healthier environments.

To learn more, visit [ABMEnhancedClean.com](https://www.abmenhancedclean.com). Ready to get started now?  
Call **866.624.1520** and press 3.