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## Microbiological flora isolated from medical staff's fingers in 24 ophthalmological surgery rooms.

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Purpose: To detect microbiological contamination on medical staff's fingers without surgical gloves, during ophthalmological surgeries, in order to identify contaminants which may be responsible for post operative infections.

Methods: 72 fingers without gloves, from 24 hands of 24 different medical staff in 24 ophthalmological surgery rooms were tested by printing fingers on a Petri plate surface with blood agar base. The plates were incubated during 24 to 48 hours and bacteria and fungus count was performed.

Results: Positive culture were identified in 71 fingers (98,6%) and 1144 colonies isolated in the following distribution: Staphylococcus epidermidis 79.7%, Staphylococcus saprophyticus 8.8%, Staphylococcus aureus 7.7%, Micrococcus sp 1.7%, Bacillus sp 1.4%, Streptococcus viridans 0.5%, Difteroides 0.2% and Gram negative bacillus 0.1%.

Conclusions: The results suggest that contaminated hands can be a potential source of microbiological infection, by non intentional spreading of contaminants in equipments and surgical supplies.