

Nano Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard

A Nanotechnological Godsend: This Anti-coronavirus Spray Keeps **Surfaces Sterile for FIVE Years!**

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CORONAVIRUS cases continue to climb, with 200,000+ cases and 8,000+ deaths confirmed around the world. Now a revolutionary spray has arrived, guaranteed to completely sanitise home surfaces for five years.

Antimicrobial spray MVX Protex uses the latest nanotechnology to protect homes and hospitals against the growing coronavirus threat. The spray, developed in <u>lapan</u> by nanotechnology company Nanotera Group, has just been licensed in the UK.

Saba Yussouf, Director of NanoTera Group revealed to Daily Express how the patented and proved tech works. She said: "This technology is a spray that coats any hard or soft surface except human skin, and it can kill bacteria fungus and viruses.

"After you spray our solution on a surface and wait an hour to wait for it to dry, any pathogen - any bacteria, virus or fungus - when it touches the surface cannot spread any further and dies. "We don't go into the cell of the bacteria or the virus and kill it, which is far more complicated.

"What we do is actually destroy their ability to attach to a host cell, which is how viruses, bacteria and fungus spread. "They need a host cell to get inside this membrane, but we don't allow that to happen."

Nanotechnology in Battle Against Coronavirus ...

The technology, which is being increasingly used by dental practices in London can be used on various surfaces including furniture, digital devices and textiles. Once the EPA-certified nanocoating has been sprayed, there is no need to disinfect it for another five years. The cost is \$3,000 per hundred square metres, which when split over five years, is approximately \$600 a year.

Ms Yussouf added: "It's alarming so few locations in the <u>UK</u> are using this spray to sanitise and help prevent life-threatening viruses such as coronavirus."

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Dr Jeremy Ramsden, Professor of Nanotechnology at The University of Buckingham's Clore Laboratory, said: "The recent outbreaks of Coronavirus with the prospect of a far more serious epidemic, highlights the need to diminish the environmental burden of viruses.

"It is a relief that the <u>UK</u> has joined other countries and licensed this spray but we certainly need to educate people on the ease of being able to keep surfaces continuously sterile without the need for further intervention."

Ms Yussouf believes this spray should be the first line of defence, should the coronavirus outbreak become a pandemic, as some experts fear. She said: "The NHS should make this tool available on the NHS considering we're on the verge of a pandemic. "If it's not contained properly, it could keep going for a long time even when an antiviral shot arrives, because there are many strains and mutations.

"We should start with making it compulsory in NHS hospitals, I think that's a good start as there are many very old and young people in these hospitals. "It's recommended staff decontaminate surfaces five times a day and that's a lot of costs and a lot of labour. "So imagine not needing to do it at all for a fraction of the time and fraction of the cost, which is where we can come in and help."

Read the <u>original article</u> on Daily Express.