



The Facts!



Touch Guard Silver Ion technology and Covid 19 Testing

- The Silver Ion technology used in **Touch Guard** was produced by BioCote UK, who have been producing it for the last 25 years, to provide anti-microbial protection. <https://www.biocote.com/?fbclid=IwAR2aRcXTjMkuwchpJA1eyah5wM3tMyjmBRtWHv0mIYAnpVUMO-qRSui4psQ>
- Silver ion technology used in **Touch Guard** is not only effective against viruses, it has antimicrobial properties, meaning that it is effective against all types of pathogen (bacteria, viruses, fungi, parasites and protozoa). This is a broad-spectrum, future-proof product.
- COVID-19 is a novel strain of coronaviruses, i.e. it has never been seen before, until its identification in Wuhan, China in January 2020. As an emerging disease, research only recently began, upon its identification.
- Silver Ions (as used in **Touch Guard**) have been scientifically proven to work as protection against the transferal of viruses. Due to high Biohazard threat, availability of COVID-19 samples is currently limited by Public Health England for non-medical companies. This will change in the coming months as the pandemic wanes, and **Touch Guard** will duly be tested against COVID-19, once the restrictions on samples are relaxed.
- Covid 19 is one strain of the coronavirus group and no samples are currently available for commercial testing, so the closest available match for testing to the structure of Covid 19 is the **Feline coronavirus**.
- **Feline coronavirus** has only one genetic marker different from Covid 19 and has the same mechanism of action.
- Due to the almost identical genome, pharmaceutical companies are using the **feline coronavirus** as a model for the development of anti-COVID-19 products. <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-04-antiviral-cat-coronavirus-key-covid-.html>
- After testing the silver ion technology (used in **Touch Guard**) to the BS ISO 21702:2019 standard, polypropylene containing **BioCote® technology** was proven to be effective against **feline coronavirus, strain Munich, with a reduction of 90% in 2 hours. It demonstrates the antiviral efficacy of BioCote® technology against a strain of the coronavirus family.** <https://www.biocote.com/coronavirus-efficacy-testing-details>

- Future testing of BioCote against **COVID-19** is planned once samples become available. Due to the positive results achieved against the Feline Coronavirus (and it's almost identical genome), we are confident that BioCote will also be proven effective against **COVID-19**.
- Using products that contain Silver Ions will provide protection against viruses, both now and in the future. Having a permanent barrier, by using **Touch Guard**, will provide on-going protection once **Covid 19** has subsided and new viruses appear. It has been proven effective against influenza viruses which are a significant annual threat, causing widespread illness and mortality in vulnerable population groups (i.e. the elderly).
- Despite the pending proof of anti-COVID-19 action, we feel it is best practice to utilise a product like **Touch Guard**, with broad-spectrum anti-microbial action to help protect the public against current and future threats. COVID-19 will pass and by taking a pro-active approach **NOW**, by combining **Touch Guard** with appropriate cleaning regimes and hand hygiene, we can actively work to prevent the rapid spread of future contact-borne diseases from reaching pandemic levels.
- There are no detrimental effects in using **Touch Guard** on surfaces, but it provides a wide range of antimicrobial benefits, as well as improving the appearances of the coated surfaces. Once applied, **Touch Guard** provides a permanent safety net where cleaning regimes may not be thorough enough, providing a 'belt and braces' best practice approach.

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