

Antibacterial Handwash: Useful, or a Potential Risk?

Posted on Thursday 16th January 2014

Dr Mark Webber (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/profiles/iandi/webber-mark.aspx>) was a recent guest expert on the BBC World News programme 'Global' (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=04PvUz55Gxo>), alongside Dr Ranj Singh and cleaning guru Aggie MacKenzie.

Mark provided expert opinion on the use of antibacterial soaps and handwashes, which are potentially no more effective than ordinary soaps and may actually be contributing to the rise of bacterial and antibiotic resistance, which poses a serious threat to public health.

Mark is a Senior Research Fellow within the **Antimicrobials Research Group** (<http://www.antimicrobialagentsresearchgroup.com/about-us.html>) at the University of Birmingham and his research focusses on antimicrobial action and resistance with specific interests in bacterial evolution in response to stress, mechanisms of biofilm formation and transferrable resistance.

View the full discussion. (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=04PvUz55Gxo>)

