



PSA

Date: June 17, 2020
To: All Media
From: Stephanie Krell, PIO Unified Command
Subject: **Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation in Reducing Transmission of COVID-19**

For many years, hospitals have been using ultraviolet light to cut down on the spread of drug-resistant viruses and to disinfect surgical sites. Now, there is interest in using the same technology in schools, offices, and restaurants to help reduce the transmission of COVID-19 as public spaces reopen.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is recommending Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation (UVGI) as an effective technology to minimize the spread of airborne microorganisms. The Wasco, Sherman and Gilliam County Unified Command Team also encourages business to use of this technology especially if they serve a large number of people.

Two systems of UVGI have been used in healthcare settings, duct irradiation and upper-room irradiation. In duct irradiation systems, use UV lamps which are placed inside ducts that remove air from rooms to disinfect the air before it is recirculated. When it is properly designed, installed and maintained, high levels of UVGI can be attained in the ducts with little or no exposure to people in the rooms.

In upper-room irradiation, UV lamps can either be suspended from ceilings or mounted on the wall.

The CDC does not recommend UVGI for air management prior to recirculation nor do they recommend it as a substitution for HEPA filtration.

For more information, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/decontamination-reuse-respirators.html>.

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