

Foot Spa Hygiene Investigation

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Complaints

- Several complaints were received within a two week period.
- Complainants allegedly received fungal infections from the same premises.
- Multiple inspections were conducted and almost identical information and reports were provided.
- Staff displayed uncertainty and confusion when discussing cleaning and disinfection procedures.
- **“Why don’t we test them...”**

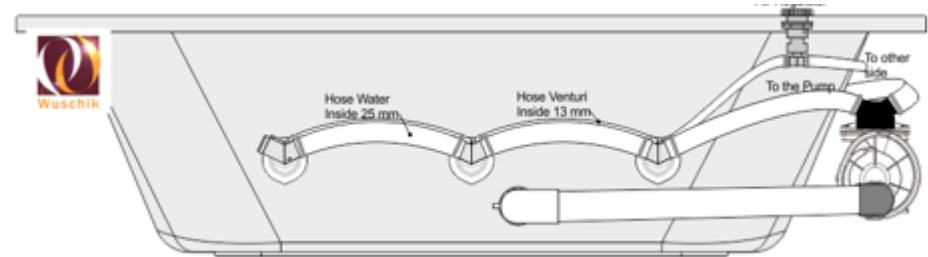
Research

- We researched the cleaning and disinfection processes for foot spas.
- Searched standards in the USA, manufacturers and health guidelines.
- Manufacturers and health guidelines identical **HOWEVER** the solution differed.
- We had to educate ourselves to identify possible risks before we educated the proprietor and staff.



Procedure

- Two foot spas were chosen by staff which were cleaned and disinfected ready for use
- The surfaces within the tubs were swabbed
- Water was recirculated and sampled then Epsom salts were added and water sampled.
- One foot spa was disinfected with the manufacturers solution
- The other foot spa was disinfected with bleach

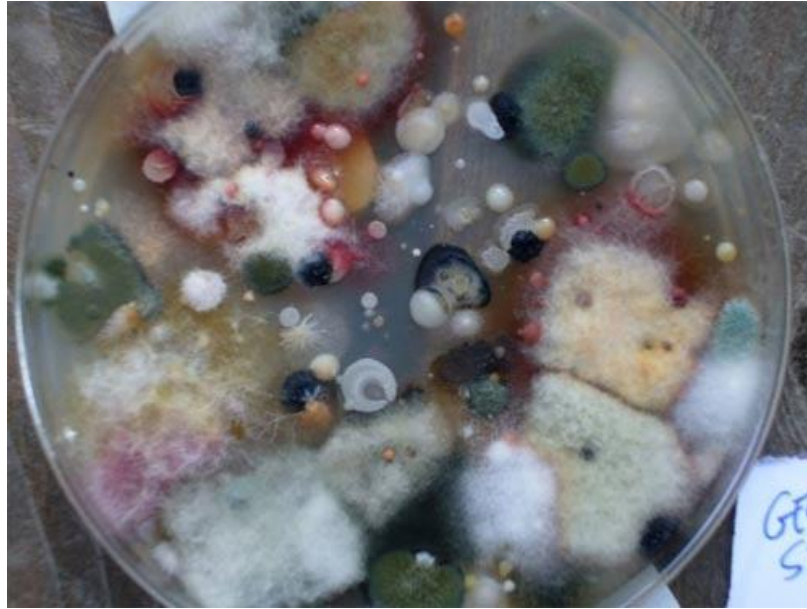


Results

Sample Type	Foot Spa 1	Foot spa 2
Swabs	0	0
Recirculated water	Exceeded counting amount	Exceeded counting amount
Recirculated water with Epsom salts	Exceeded counting amount	Exceeded counting amount

* Samples tested for yeast and moulds.

Yeast and Mould Growth



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Manufacturer vs Health Guidelines

Sample Type	Foot Spa 1	Foot Spa 2
Manufacturers Solution	Yeast and Mould Present	
Bleach Solution		Less than 1 per 100 mL

* Samples tested for yeast and moulds.

Dermatophytes



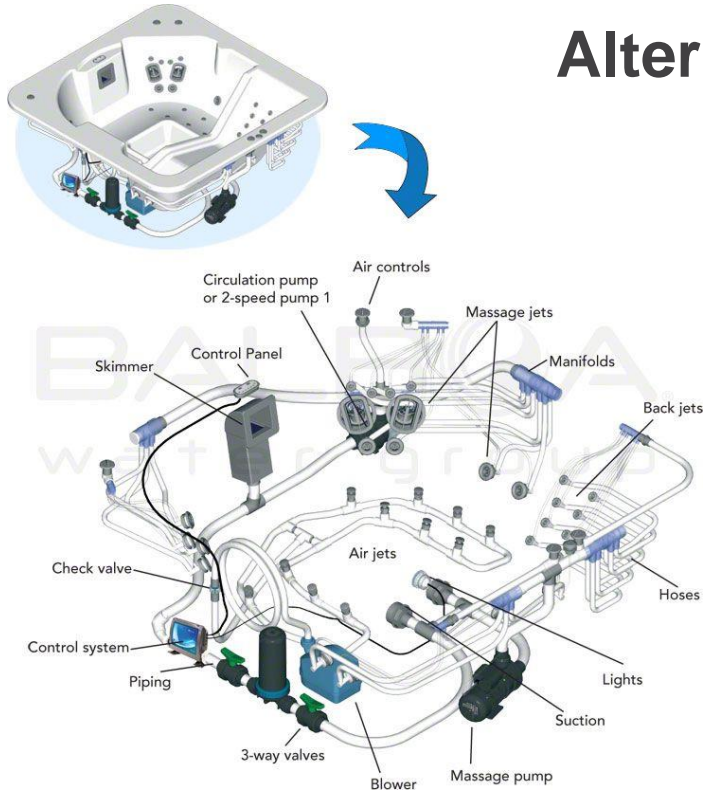
Outcomes at the Premises

- Behavioural change lead to increased engagement from the proprietor.
- Communication from proprietors to staff has increased.
- Procedures have been written in Vietnamese.
- The correct disinfection procedure is likely to be adhered too more frequently.

Outcome for the Team

- A deeper knowledge and understanding of foot spa unit risks.
- All necessary actions were taken to reduce the risk are backed by evidence.
- Risk based assessment tool was used and applied to a health premises.
- A template to investigate and identify new and emerging processes within Melton has been developed.
- Inspection approach is developing.

Alternative controls



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Questions ...



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