As shown on our cover, hotels often settle for cleanliness vs. sanitation, but our feature this month, “Sanitary Status and Incidence of Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus and Clostridium difficile Within Canadian Hotel Rooms,” highlights the dangers of that kind of approach. The authors sampled various surfaces from hotel rooms in three cities in Canada. Coliforms were recovered from 36% of surfaces, and oxacillin-resistant bacteria were recovered from 19% of surfaces with 46% of isolates confirmed as methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus. The results of the authors’ study show that more emphasis is needed on sanitizing surfaces in hotel rooms rather than simple cleaning. See page 8.

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