



Fully sealed & waterproof

ioniTOUCH Keyboards incorporate antimicrobial technology in an easy-to-clean, waterproof design to improve infection control in healthcare environments.

Shared keyboards in clinical settings such as hospital wards, laboratories and GP or dental surgeries can rapidly become breeding sites for bacteria. Developed specifically for the healthcare sector, ioniTOUCH keyboards are made from silicone rubber, impregnated with antimicrobial silver phosphate glass to inhibit the growth of microbes. With a fully-sealed design to enable easy cleaning and disinfection, ioniTOUCH keyboards help to encourage a safer working environment and prevent infections from spreading.

## KEY FEATURES & BENEFITS

- Easy to clean - including with hospital-grade alcohol wipes
- Rugged, robust design - built to withstand heavy, continuous use
- Ideal for use in hospitals, GP surgeries, dental practices, laboratories, veterinary practices
- Waterproof - water ingress protection rating IP65 to IP68 (depending on model)
- Time-saving - disinfect without disconnecting (keyboard disabled with one button)
- Antimicrobial additive and coating (silver phosphate glass) inhibits microbial growth
- Certified efficacy in approved antimicrobial tests against E. coli, MRSA and K. pneumoniae
- Fully sealed, silicone-rubber design eliminated contaminant-traps between keys
- Laser-etched keys for long-lasting legibility and durability
- Excellent tactile feel, with responsive entry
- Backlit keys options for low-light environments
- Multiple keyboard layouts available

BPR-approved antimicrobial additive & coating





Infection control is an essential area of focus for every healthcare authority. Increasing antibacterial resistance, coupled with a dearth of new antibiotics in the pipeline, means many common infections are becoming more difficult to treat, while for some there are few, if any, effective drugs currently available. This potentially puts lives at risk, as well as inflating treatment costs. Products and practices designed to inhibit microbial growth are therefore a vital tool in helping tackle the spread of healthcare-acquired infections. Multiple studies show that standard computer keyboards are frequently contaminated yet difficult to clean effectively, with a significant potential of becoming reservoirs of infection. The ioniTOUCH range of washable, antimicrobial keyboards can play an important role in inhibiting the spread of bacteria by enabling easy and thorough cleaning, which reduces the risk of germs being transmitted between staff using the keyboards and to vulnerable patients.

## EXPERT OPINION

“Research-based evidence concludes that computer keyboards can potentially spread infections in healthcare settings and communal environments, where they are used by many people.”

Sally Beck, RGN, chartered member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health

A study at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit showed that standard keyboards in triage and registration areas were over three times more likely to be contaminated with bacterial colonies than keyboards in the main treatment areas, and recommended the use of washable, silicone-rubber keyboards throughout the emergency department to reduce the risk of patient infections.

Henry Ford Health System, 2010

Researchers at Swinburne University of Technology in Australia found that shared keyboards tended to harbour more bacteria than those used by only one person.

Anderson and Palombo, 2009

In one US teaching hospital, 95% of keyboards in 29 clinical areas tested positive for microorganisms, including streptococcus, Clostridium perfringens, vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus, Staphylococcus aureus and fungi. Schultz et al, 2003

“Studies have shown as many as 95% of keyboards have positive cultures for microbes.” Philip Pugh, head of infection prevention and control, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead

Dr Philip Tierno, clinical professor of microbiology and pathology at New York University Langone Medical Centre, US, recommends frequent disinfection of any computer keyboard with multiple users.



Reduce the risk of patient infections.

Certain ioniTOUCH keyboards are fully immersible for thorough cleaning – in compliance with recommendations for the use of immersible keyboards for direct patient-care areas to reduce the risk of microbial contamination.

Weber et al, 2005

At Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago, researchers found that drug-resistant bacteria, including enterococci, could survive on a keyboard for up to 24 hours, and P. aeruginosa for one hour. Lankford et al, 2006