

## Press Release

An important presentation under the title “**Copper alloys, beneficial effects on ICU operation**” was made at the **4<sup>th</sup> International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance, IMED 2013**, in Vienna, Austria February 15 to 18, 2013, by the Scientific Group of the **Hellenic Copper Development Institute (HCDI)** on the economic impacts on an Intensive Care Unit (ICU) Operation, after the implementation of antimicrobial copper.

The conference related to communicable diseases (newly emerged or familiar one’s) outbreaks, infectious agents, epidemiological surveillance and their management.

The research was presented at the category of «**Antimicrobial Resistance**» and many scientists, doctors and health policy makers expressed their interest through a variety of questions concerning the policy of ICU hospitalization, the cost benefit of antimicrobial copper implementation and details regarding the methodology followed that led to the financial conclusions and the estimation of the operational cost reduction of the ICU.

**Dr.Spyros Papanicolaou**, general surgeon - intensivist and one of the researchers of the HCDI Scientific Group said:

"The financial data showed 30% decrease on the use of antimicrobials per patient per portion. Under the current economic crisis conditions that affect the Global Community, cost reduction on Health and an increase of the “antimicrobial shield” by the use of antimicrobial copper is an innovative intervention at the Health Sector. "

**Dr. Panos Efstathiou**, Scientific Advisor of the Hellenic Copper Development Institute (HCDI) and Commander of the National Health Operations Centre (NHOC), of the Ministry of Health commented:

*"The results of the research show clearly a further reduction of hospitalization days in the ICU after the implementation of antimicrobial copper and that in financial terms is interpreted with a significant cost reduction of the ICU operation.*



2013  
**IMED**  
International Meeting  
on Emerging Diseases  
and Surveillance

IMED 2013 • Vienna, Austria • February 15-18, 2013

**Event Information**

- Welcome
- Organization
- Participating Organizations
- Planned Topics
- Schedule-at-a-Glance
- Confirmed Speakers
- Plenary Speakers
- Scientific Program
- Contributors
- Abstract Submission
- General Information
- CME Accreditation
- Official Airline

**Registration**

- Registration Info
- Online Registration

**Accommodation**

- Hotel Information
- Online Forms

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