

## ASHRAE Technical FAQ

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Question Does ASHRAE publish guidance related to the role of HVAC systems in the transmission of airborne infectious diseases?

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ASHRAE discusses airborne infectious disease transmission in various publications (listed below) related to health care facilities as well as various high occupancy density applications. The ASHRAE Position Document – [Airborne Infectious Diseases](#) summarizes ASHRAE’s official position on the subject. It is scheduled to be updated before it expires in January 2017.

Answer Relevant articles can be located through a literature search online using Scopus, Pubmed, or Google Scholar using keywords such as “airflow”, “infectious disease”, “HVAC”, and “airborne”.

This subject is one of the main themes of [ASHRAE’s IAQ 2010 Conference](#) which took place in November 10-12, 2010 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Technical papers are available in the ASHRAE bookstore ([www.ashrae.org/bookstore](http://www.ashrae.org/bookstore)).

A goal in the [2010-2015 ASHRAE Research Strategic Plan](#) is to “Understand influences of HVAC on airborne pathogen transmission in public spaces and develop effective control strategies”. ASHRAE aims to encourage research proposals that address achieving this goal.

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ASHRAE Pubs

ASHRAE Position Document – [Airborne Infectious Diseases](#)

[2015 ASHRAE Handbook - HVAC Applications](#), Chapter [A08](#)

[HVAC Design Manual for Hospitals and Clinics, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2013](#)

[ASHRAE Standard 170-2013](#), plus [ASHRAE BOD approved addenda](#)

[ASHRAE Standard 161-2013](#), plus [ASHRAE BOD approved addenda](#)

EHC Emerging Issue – [Biological agents and airborne transmission](#)

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Topic References airborne infectious disease, SARS, infection control, hospitals, healthcare facilities, high occupancy density

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|   | Cognizant ASHRAE Committees | Refer to Organization |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | <a href="#">TC 9.6</a>      | <a href="#">WHO</a>   |
| 2 | <a href="#">TC 9.3</a>      | <a href="#">AIA</a>   |
| 3 | <a href="#">EHC</a>         | <a href="#">ASHE</a>  |
| 4 | SSPC 170                    |                       |
| 5 |                             |                       |