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Raman spectroscopy has been used to develop a quick and easy-to-use alternative to cumbersome genotyping methods for bacterial typing.

The immediate incentive for this development is the enormous burden of healthcare acquired infections, which affect 5-10% of the patients who are admitted to a hospital, and which form an enormous drain on resources in our healthcare systems.

Comparison of the prevalence of healthcare acquired infections in different countries makes clear that they are not something one just has to learn to live with. A significant portion can be prevented.

One important element is to understand how pathogens are transmitted in a hospital. This requires bacterial typing, for which until now no suitable routinely applicable high throughput technology was available. SpectraCell does make this possible.

In this presentation the SpectraCell technology will be highlighted and will be illustrated with typing examples.