

Study 12h

Field Summary

The *ActiveGuard*® Mattress Liner, is an Active Liner impregnated with 1.64% permethrin on a polyester fabric, and is labeled to kill bed bugs for up to 2 years. The Active Liner is typically installed inverted on the mattress and/or box spring once the bed bugs are largely cleared from the structure. Any missed bed bugs or nymphs from newly hatched eggs are killed thus preventing the start of new infestations.

This bed bug control demonstration was conducted as a transient housing facility located in Kingston, NY where the typical stay for a resident was 90 days. The facility consisted of three inter-connected Victorian homes containing 40 rooms (55 beds) with a soup kitchen/common area for the residents. The facility has had chronic bed bug problems over the years.

The facility was inspected by Pestmaster® Services, a PMP firm located in Kingston, NY, using a canine/handler team to determine the extent of the infestation. Initially, 18 rooms and the common area were infested. Approximately 80 cubic yards of clutter were removed from the facility. The residents then bagged up their belongings for short term storage while the entire facility was treated using Steri-Fab® to clear sleeping surfaces then Tempo® 1% Dust and Transport® GHP Insecticide. Once treated, half of the rooms received *ActiveGuard* Mattress Liners installed on their mattresses while the other half of the rooms received a high-quality encasement on their mattresses. Monthly canine inspections were performed and spot treatment using the same insecticides occurred in any room with bed bug activity.

During the 12 months of the demonstration, the rooms were clear of bed bugs after an inspection or two plus spot treatment because of a few bed bugs returned to rooms with bagged belongings. After that, the rooms were clear of bed bugs except where new residents re-introduced bed bugs to their rooms. New activity in rooms where *ActiveGuard* were installed were found with dead bed bugs on the bed. Encasements would not provide any level of control where they re-infested with bed bugs. It was important to inspect all mattresses every 6 months to validate that either an *ActiveGuard* Mattress Liner or an encasement were still in place.