

Department of Environmental Health - Bacteria Kill Process -

Inactivation process by reactive Hydrogen Peroxide can proceed in five reaction pathways on bacteria.

- Oxidation of coenzyme a causing inhibition of cell respiration and cell death
- Destruction of the outer membrane of bacterial cells
- Oxidation of unsaturated phospholipids in bacterial cell membrane
- Leakage of intracellular K⁺ ions
- Detrimental effects on DNA and RNA

Summary: The process produces Hydrogen Peroxide which can freely perpetrate into cell membranes and walls and causes microbial inactivation.
