

ALBION NORDIC AB

How does air purifiers affect the level of sick absence for children
in municipal preschools?



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1 INTRODUCTION

During autumn 2018, Albion Nordic AB has placed air purifiers at Enögla preschool in the municipality of Enköping. The test took place between August 27, until November 30, 2018. The test consisted of air purifiers from Albion Nordic AB placed on half of the wards at the preschool and the staff has then noted the number of sick leave days from both departments with air purifiers as well as the departments without.

The purpose of the test is to investigate whether air purifiers can reduce sick leave. The test is sanctioned by Enköpings municipality



2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 ALBION NORDIC AB

Albion Nordic AB is a digital distributor and producer of products for indoor climate, with offices and warehouse in Enköping. With us you will find strong brands in air purifiers, dehumidifiers, humidifiers, ventilation, cooling and heat pumps. Albion Nordic AB is the general agent for Coway in the Nordic countries.

We sell our products through partners in e-commerce, retail and distribution. As of some years ago, we also run our own e-commerce, e-klok.se.

2.2 AIR PURIFIER

Air purifiers from Coway are available in several different models. In short, they can be described as a fan which pulls the air through a number of filters, which in turn reduces particles of different sizes and properties available in the room. The particles may consist of bacteria, viruses, dust or anything other that can be filtered off in any way.

The air purifier does not supply oxygen and does not remove moisture or carbon dioxide, CO₂.

For this test, a model Coway AP-1516D air purifier has been used. At the preschool, 5 of the 10 wards were equipped with two air purifiers each. (see the description in section 2.3 below).

In parallel with the air purifier, there is also the room's ordinary ventilation system.



2.3 THE TEST

The purpose of the test is to see if air purifiers can have an effect on the level of sick absence for children in preschool. Sick absence forms have been placed on all of the preschools ten wards – both with and without air purifiers. The staff have been instructed to note every sick day for children and have, as far as possible, avoided noting sick leave not connected to airborne illnesses (e.g. bone fractures, abrasions, autumn blisters, chicken pox, eye- or ear related inflammations etc.)

Enöglå Preschool

10 wards

150 children

10 purifiers placed in 5 wards

Modell: Coway AP-1516D

Testperiod: August 27 - November 30, 2018 – 14 weeks



3 RESULTS

323 days of sick absence at the wards with air purifiers

417 days of sick absence at the wards without air purifiers*

The test shows a 19,05% decrease in sick absence within the wards with the air purifiers, compared to the wards without.

*One of the wards without air purifiers are missing account for six weeks of the study. The number of absences can therefore be expected to be higher than the accounted 417.

