

ATP bioluminescence

Measures organic debris (alive & dead)

Does not detect viruses

Each unit has own reading scale (<250-500 RLU) *Relative Light Units (RLU) is the unit of measurement of ATP. RLU is not a Standard Measurement, such as length (inches/meters) but is specific to each manufacturer. Each system varies in RLU output as it has its own reagent formulation and instrument design.*

Chlorine (bleach) gives false “zero” reading

Conclusion: ATP is a good tool to determine how clean a device if (amount of bio-burden is removed).

ATP does not measure the level of disinfection. To date that can only be done through a swab with a sample taken off of a device after disinfection, growing it in a petri dish to determine how many pathogens are still virulent. If that’s not done correctly and the sample is contaminated you will get a false result.