



Consumer Guidance Society of India

The Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 (Ref. No. Bom 33/1966 GBBSD 04/04/1966) &

The Bombay Public Trusts Act XXIX of 1950 (Reg. No. F – 1381 (Bom) 20/05/1966)

India's First NGO in the Consumer Sector: Established in 1966

Value for Price, People and the Environment

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HAND SANITIZER TESTING REPORT (AUGUST 2020)

CGSI right from its inception in 1966 routinely carries out massive exercises primarily aimed to check the quality of various products supplied to consumers in Greater Mumbai. CGSI conducts such studies to create awareness on the actual market conditions among consumers and the relevant Food and Drugs Administration authorities.

Present study is on “Hand Sanitizers” available in Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Thane, State of Maharashtra. We have tested hand sanitizer sample purchased from the market and tested the alcohol contents as per claims made on the products.

CGSI carried out “Gas Chromatography” testing of over 120 Hand Sanitizer samples in nationally accredited laboratory in August 2020. The following are a brief collated conclusive report of the tests carried out. We carried out the test to find out as to whether the hand sanitizer market selling in the open market complies with the FAD standard requirements / LABEL CLAIMS or not and the results analyzed.

We are all aware that the best way to prevent spread of infections and to reduce the risk of getting sick is to wash our hands with plain soap and water for at least 20 seconds. This is even more essential specially before eating or after coughing, sneezing or after going to the toilet. If in case soap and water is unavailable, only then it is advisable to use hand sanitizers that contain at least 60% alcohol. Moreover, one important point to note is that, there is no scientific evidence that antimicrobial wash products are more effective than plain soap and water.

Most retail stores and pharmacies sell hand sanitizers, however, due to public health emergency posed by COVID-19, many unscrupulous manufacturers have entered this business to make quick money and take advantage of the scary pandemic situation.

Hand sanitizers are over-the-counter (OTC) drugs regulated by FDA and all formulations should comply with FDA's OTC drug review conditions and manufactured under the conditions in FDA's policy. It is also important to mention that consumers should ensure that they follow the warning prescriptions mentioned in the label. The drug facts label should mention details of the ingredients in the product under sale. All OTC drugs must list the date of manufacture and expiry confirming its stability and safety for use. Store hand sanitizers in a cool place and out of reach of little children as even an ingestion can cause alcohol poisoning. Non-alcoholic based products are not effective against COVID-19.

Sanitizers containing TOXIC METHANOL (a primary alcohol) do not qualify as an ingredient on the label as it is a banned item. Sale of natural ethanol is strictly regulated and so impossible to obtain without alcohol permit. Denatured synthetic alcohols although available without permit or regulatory compliance are however very expensive. Some manufacturers to get over these problems avoid using ethyl alcohol and instead use TOXIC METHYL ALCOHOL as replacement. Unscrupulous manufacturers could use branded container packing for marketers to sell spurious methanol-based sanitizers.

Methanol, also known as methyl alcohol, carbinol, wood alcohol or wood spirits, is an industrial chemical compound with chemical formula CH_3OH and easily available at almost half the price of government-controlled ethanol. Methanol is the simplest alcohol, is light, volatile, colourless, flammable, **POISONOUS** liquid with a distinctive odour that is somewhat milder and sweeter than ethanol (ethyl alcohol). Methanol is frequently used as a denaturant additive for ethanol manufactured for industrial uses, this addition of a poison economically exempts industrial ethanol from the rather significant 'liquor' taxes it attracts as a levy as it is the essence of all potable alcoholic beverages.

Methanol is intoxicating but not directly poisonous. It is toxic by its breakdown (toxication), by the enzyme alcohol dehydrogenase in the liver by forming formic acid and formaldehyde which **CAUSE BLINDNESS by destruction of the optic nerve**. It enters the body by ingestion, inhalation, or absorption through the skin. Though it is miscible with water, methanol is very hard to wash off the skin. Methyl alcohol is a de-fatting agent and may cause skin to become dry and cracked. Skin absorption can occur; symptoms may parallel inhalation exposure. Continued exposure may cause eye lesions.

Once absorbed into the body, it eliminates very slowly. Symptoms of overexposure may include headache, drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, blurred vision, blindness, coma, and death. A person may get better but then worse again up to 30

hours later. Persons with pre-existing skin disorders or eye problems or impaired liver or kidney function may be more susceptible to the effects of the substance. Dangerous dose levels will build in the body on regular exposure to methanol vapours or liquid methanol without skin protection.

The initial symptoms of methanol exposure are usually less severe than the symptoms resulting from the ingestion of a similar quantity of ethyl alcohol. Once the initial symptoms have passed, a second set of symptoms arises 10–30 hours after the initial exposure to methanol: blurring or **COMPLETE LOSS OF VISION, TOGETHER WITH ACIDOSIS**. These symptoms result from the accumulation of toxic levels of formate in the bloodstream, and may progress to **DEATH BY RESPIRATORY FAILURE**.

About CGSI:

CGSI, the pioneer consumer organization founded in 1966 has been working for the protection of consumer interests since five decades.

CGSI runs the Maharashtra State Consumer Helpline, an outsourced service by the Department of Consumer Protection, Government of Maharashtra and the Department of Consumer Affairs, Dept of Consumer Affairs, Government of India Its Consumer Complaints Redressal Wing receives grievances from consumers which the legal aid arm addresses on a weekly basis.

If a valid complaint is received, as a practice, CGSI's Consumer Complaints Redressal wing takes the next step. A letter is written to the concerned company/party to solve the matter amicably with the complainant. Failing which, the legal arm guides the complainant to move forward with legal remedies. It is a complete consultation and guidance session where each complainant is addressed personally with a token processing fee for the service.

CGSI's other activities include: Consumer education, conducting talks and exhibitions to spread consumer awareness among urban poor and rural areas, testing consumer products and publication of a bi-monthly magazine 'Keemat'.

For further information and details, please contact Dr. M.S. Kamath, Hon. Secretary, CGSI at 9820455858 or email: dr.m.s.kamath@gmail.com

HAND SANITIZER TESTING REPORT SUMMARY (AUGUST 2020)

HAND SANITIZERS TESTED (AUGUST 2020)	TOTAL	%
TOTAL SAMPLES	122	100
Branded Packing	118	
Unbranded Packing	4	
PRODUCT NOT COMPLYING TO DECLARED LABEL SPECIFICATIONS	45	37
PRODUCT COMPLYING TO DECLARED LABEL SPECIFICATIONS	59	48
SAMPLES CONTAINING TOXIC METHANOL AND HARMFUL FOR CONSUMER USE	5	4
SAMPLES SOLD WITHOUT ANY CLAIMS	12	10
SAMPLES SOLD – INEFFECTIVE AGAINST COVID -19 OR ANY VIRUS	1	1

HAND SANITIZERS CONTAINING TOXIC METHANOL (5 Nos.)

Claimed Value	Results Obtained	Name of Product	Company	Qty in ml	MRP	Dt. of. Mfg.
Ethanol Denatured 70 % v/v	Methanol-18 % IPA 35% v/v	Instant hand sanitizer	Krivi Herbals Pvt. Ltd	60	25	Jun-20
Ethanol (95%v/v) 62%v/v	Methanol 34 %v/v	Medicare	Avon Laboratories	50	120	20-Jan
IPA 80%	Methanol 65 % v/v IPA 1%v/v	MISTY GOLD	Equinox Industries	100	50	1-Jun
1-Propanol-30% 2-propanol 45%	2-propanol 24% Methanol 56 % v/v	Sanitan	Aan Pharma Pvt. Ltd	100	50	20-Apr
Ethyl alcohol 67 % v/v	Methanol 63 %v/v IPA 5% v/v	Clean Hands	Avadh Engineering Pvt. Ltd.	100	50	Jun-20

HAND SANITIZERS NOT AS PER COMPANY CLAIMS (45 Nos.) (Poor quality and adulterated)

Claimed Value	Results Obtained	Name of Product	Company	Qty in ml	MRP	Dt. of Mfg.
Ethanol-62%v/v IPA 3.3%v/v	Ethanol 49%v/v	Hanklin	Chery Laboratory Pvt. Ltd	50	25	1-Apr
Ethanol-62%v/v IPA 3.3%v/v	Ethanol 58 %v/v	Hanklin	Chery Laboratory Pvt. Ltd	100	50	20-Apr
Ethanol-70%v/v	62 % v/v	Brawol	Bracing Pharma	100	50	20-Jul
Ethanol Denatured 70 % v/v	Ethanol 64 %v/v IPA 4 %v/v	KRIVI	Krivi herbals Pvt. Ltd	100	50	1-May
Ethyl alcohol 95%-70%v/v IPA 3%v/v	Ethanol 65%v/v IPA 1 %v/v	Actisol	Influx health care	100	50	7-Jun
Denatured ethanol 70%v/v	63 %v/v	KRIVI	Krivi herbals Pvt. Ltd	100	50	1-May
Ethyl Alcohol (95%v/v) - 70% v/v	63%v/v	CHARAK	ACCRA PAC (INDIA LTD)	100	50	1-May
Denatured ethanol 70%v/v	58% v/v	Kerox	Sona Health	100	50	20-Jun
Ethyl Alcohol (95%v/v) - 75% v/v	57% v/v	Actisafe	Cotec Health	100	50	20-Jun
IPA 70 % v/v	66 % v/v	GentleCare	Supriya Cosmotech	50	25	20-Apr
Ethyl Alcohol (95%v/v)- 75% v/v	62% v/v	Actisafe	Cotec Health	100	50	20-Jun
Denatured ethanol 80%v/v	68%v/v	Majestic	Majestic Perfumes	110	65	20-Jul
Ethyl Alcohol 80 % v/v	65%v/v	Germ Shield	Urvashi Industries	100	50	20-May
Ethyl Alcohol 62 %	58%v/v	Aurascen	Tymk Health	100	50	20-Apr
Ethyl Alcohol 70 % v/v	65% v/v	Germix	Patanjali	120	55	20-Jul
Ethyl Alcohol 66 % v/v- IPA 4%v/v	Ethanol 44% v/v	Vitfe	Total Impex	100	50	20-Jun
IPA 65 %	Ethanol 70 %v/v	Hand Sanitizer	SSS Pharma	100	50	20-Apr
IPA 70 % v/v	Ethanol 63 %v/v	Handcleanser	Gentle Care	100	50	1-Jun
Ethanol-70%v/v	63% v/v	Ramson's	Ramson's	50	25	20-Jul
Alcohol 70% v/v	65% v/v	Keny's Berry Blossom	Keny	50	25	20-Jul
Ethanol-70%	65% v/v	Revolve	Aaromas	50	25	20-Jul

Ethanol-62%v/v-IPA 3.3% v/v	Ethanol 51 % v/v IPA 2 %v/v	Hanklin	Chery Laboratory Pvt. Ltd	100	50	20-Apr
Ethyl Alcohol 96%	75% v/v	Handy - Rub	Nezal Nerbocare Pvt. Ltd.	100	50	20-May
Ethyl Alcohol 72%	66% v/v	BURGOT	Gemini Associates	100	50	20-Apr
Denatured ethanol 72.34%v/v	63% v/v	CIPHANDS	Sylder Remedies Pvt. Ltd.	100	50	20-May
Denatured ethanol 68%v/v- IPA 3%	Ethanol 58 %v/v IPA 2%v/v	HANDSET	JARDIN SCENTS	50	60	1-Mar
Ethyl Alcohol 65%	55 % v/v	VEDLIZE	Gloss pharmaceuticals Ltd.	100	50	20-May
Ethanol Denatured 70 % v/v	64%v/v	Azara Plus	Central Chemical Industries	100	50	12-Aug
IPA 70 %	IPA 49%v/v Ethanol 15 %v/v	Cleanza Hand Cleansing Gel	M.K.Herbals	60 ml	30	May-20
Ethyl Alcohol 70 % v/v	61 %v/v	Orva care	Orva care	60 ml	30	Jul-20
Denatured Ethanol 65% v/v	62 %v/v	Azara Plus	Central Chemical Industries	50 ml	25	May-20
Ethyl alcohol(95% v/v)-70 %v/v	66 % v/v	Margo Hand Sanitizer	Margo-Jyothy Labs	40ml	20	Apr-20
Ethyl alcohol 75 % v/v	68 % v/v	Premium Sanitizer	PREMIUM	100ml	50	May-20
IPA 70 % v/v	65 %v/v	ENTISEP	ALKEM	100	50	20-Jul
IPA 79 % v/v	72% v/v	Azilium	Azista Industries Pvt. Ltd.	100	50	6/1/2020
IPA 70 % w/L	57% v/v	HAND RUB	Suraj Health Essentials Pvt. Ltd.	100	50	4/1/2020
IPA 70 % v/v	66 % v/v	Entisep+	East African India	100	50	3/1/2020
Ethyl alcohol 80 %	78 %v/v	Accushield	Accurex Biomedical	100	50	20-Jul
Ethyl alcohol 75 %	IPA-34%v/v Ethanol 1 % v/v	Vibhu	Vibhu Medico	50	25	20-Apr
Alcohol 69.4 %w/w	IPA-47%w/w	AMBIENCE INSTANT HAND SANITIZER	AMBIENCE PHARMA			
IPA 60%	11% v/v	CLEAN HAND SANITIZER	EMAAR			
Alcohol 70 %v/v	61 % v/v	Instant hand sanitizer	KRIVI HERBALS PVT LTD			
IPA 70 %	62 % v/v	ROLEX	ROLEX PRODUCTS			

Ethyl alcohol 70 % v/v	64 % v/v	ADVAIT's	ADVAIT	100	50	01/07/20
Ethanol 70 % v/v-IPA 3.8% v/v	Ethanol 66 % v/v IPA 3 %v/v	EVOS	Alkush Industries	100	50	June 20

HAND SANITIZERS WITHOUT ANY COMPANY CLAIMS (12 Nos.)

Results Obtained	Name of Product	Company	Qty in ml	MRP	Dt. of Mfg.
Ethanol 70%v/v- IPA 4%v/v	Hand sanitizer	Apollo pharmacy	50	25	Apr-20
74% v/v	HYGELIUM	Amar Products	From Can	1950	20-Jun
80% v/v	JINDAL	JINDAL	100	Nil	Nil
IPA 16 %v/v	GOOD CLEAN		50	250	NIL
90% v/v	COVINOL	KARAN AGENCIES	50	2500 FOR 5 LTRS	Jul-20
93 %v/v	Hexigard HR	MIL Laboratories	50	25	20-Feb
78 % v/v	INSTANT HAND SANITIZER	SANGHARSH LIFECARE PVT LTD			
68 % v/v	Sanitizer sold without a name	sold in Mulund grocery stores without any name			
72 % v/v	Sanitizer sold without a name	sold in Mulund grocery stores without any name			
84 % v/v	Sanitizer sold without a name	sold in Mulund grocery stores without any name			
Ethanol 32 %v/v IPA 24 %v/v	Sanitizer sold without a name	sold in Mulund grocery stores without any name			
67 % v/v	INSTANT HAND CLEANSER GENTLE CARE	SUPREMA COSMO TECH, INDIA			

HAND SANITIZERS AS PER COMPANY CLAIMS (59* Nos.) * *Some Brands Duplicated*

NAME OF PRODUCT	COMPANY NAME
AceMD ADVANCED	Ace LABS
Actisol	Influx health care
Aurum	Priyal Cosmetics
Azilium	Azista Industries
BAJAJ NO MARKS	AROMA DE FRANCE
BI - CLEAN	JARDIN SENTES
Boro plus	Boro plus
Caleo	R.B.Tech
Care Hands	Kapynag Pharma Pvt Ltd
Clean 1st hand sanitizer	Novanta healthcare LLP
Clear Advance Hand Sanitizer	Osbro Pharmaceuticals
Clensta	Clensta International
Coroguard Plus	Ohad Pharmaceu
Dabur	Dabur India Limited
Doktar / DOKTR	M/S. Kasturi Sheshagiri Pai & Co.
Finocon Rub +	Ashirwad Industries
Germosheild	Edat Pharma and
Germes Go Hand sanitizer liquid	Lokranjan Breweries Pvt. Ltd
Glowel's Hand Sanitizer	Glowel Cosmetics
GODREJ PROTECT	GODREJ
Godrej Protekt	Primacy Industries Ltd
hand inhand	Vanesa Cosmetic Pvt Ltd Haryana
HAND RUB	MAJESTIC PERFUMES INDUSTRY INDIA
Hand Sanitizer	Symbiosis Pharma Pvt. Ltd
Hands-on Sanitizer	Midas Care Pharmaceuticals
HIM HERBAL	Pioneer Herbals
Hospirub	Global Meditech
Le'zoey	Universal Cosmetic Industries

Lifebuoy hand sanitizer	Risiveda Herbal Products Pvt. Ltd
LUPISAFE	LUPIN LTD
Mediker Hand Sanitizer	Marico
Milon	Indian Drug
Moissanite	MBS Formulation / Ranuja Medical
Natural Concept	Arians
Palmolive	Colgate Palmolive Pvt Ltd.
Pure Hands	Himalaya Drug
Relivaid	Right Soap Industries
Revolve	Aaromas
Saniease	Kiran Pharmaceuticals
Sanitru	Overseas Healthcare
Savlon	ITC Ltd
Scott Edil	Scott -Edil Pharmacia Ltd.
Steritouch	Welable Healthcare
Viroprotek	Asian Paint Ltd
Yash hand cleanser	Shri Yash Remedies

ALCOHOL FREE HAND SANITIZERS (INEFFECTIVE AGAINST COVID-19 Virus)

Claimed Value	Results Obtained	Name of Product	Company	Qty in ml	MRP	Dt. of. Mfg.
No claim of alcohol	Not detected	Premium Rose Sanitizer	PREMIUM	250	75	May-20