

MONEY

More hand sanitizers identified for methanol risk and added to FDA list of ones to avoid

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Published 12:11 p.m. ET Aug. 4, 2020 | Updated 9:11 a.m. ET Aug. 14, 2020

The Food and Drug Administration's list of hand sanitizers to avoid keeps growing.

As of Friday, the FDA's "do-not-use list of dangerous hand sanitizer products" now includes more than 150 varieties of hand sanitizer that should be avoided because they may contain methanol, a potentially fatal ingredient, contain other harmful ingredients or don't work effectively.

More of the hand sanitizers have been recalled with others being recommended for recall. Methanol is a toxic substance when absorbed through skin or ingested.

The federal agency says that in most cases, methanol does not appear on the product label but that it is "not an acceptable ingredient in any drug, including hand sanitizer, even if methanol is listed as an ingredient on the product label."

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Methanol isn't the only reason why some hand sanitizers were added to the FDA's list.

"FDA continues to find issues with certain hand sanitizer products. FDA test results show certain hand sanitizers have concerningly low levels of ethyl alcohol or isopropyl alcohol, which are active ingredients in hand sanitizer products," the federal agency said. "The agency urges consumers not to use these subpotent products and has expanded its list to include subpotent hand sanitizers, in addition to hand sanitizers that are or may be contaminated with methanol."

Need Clorox wipes?: Disinfecting wipes shortage could last into 2021 amid coronavirus

pandemic

Health alert: USDA issues health alert for frozen taquitos and chimichangas that may contain plastic, posing choking hazard

Some of the sanitizers on the list "have tested positive for 1-propanol contamination," which "is not an acceptable ingredient for hand sanitizer products marketed in the United States and can be toxic and life-threatening when ingested."

The agency said that young children who ingest 1-propanol can experience central nervous system (CNS) depression, which can be deadly. Other symptoms include "confusion, decreased consciousness, and slowed pulse and breathing," as well as skin irritation or allergic reactions, the FDA said.

In a warning July 27, the FDA said it is "urging consumers not to use any hand sanitizer products from the particular manufacturers on the list even if the product or particular lot number are not listed since some manufacturers are recalling only certain – but not all – of their hand sanitizer products."

In June, the FDA warned consumers not to use nine kinds of hand sanitizers because they may contain methanol, and added to the list in early July, expanding it multiple times that month.

The FDA has said it has taken steps to prevent the products from entering the country by placing them on an import alert. Most of the products appear to have been produced in Mexico and, according to the alert, should be avoided because they pose a health risk.

Methanol is used industrially as a solvent, pesticide and alternative fuel source, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Exposure to it can cause nausea, vomiting, headache, blurred vision, permanent blindness, seizures, coma, permanent damage to the nervous system and death.

Hand sanitizer has been a popular product to combat the coronavirus since February, and many new types have entered the market after shortages of brands including Purell.

"We remain extremely concerned about the potential serious risks of alcohol-based hand sanitizers containing methanol," FDA Commissioner Stephen M. Hahn said in a statement. "Producing, importing and distributing toxic hand sanitizers poses a serious threat to the public and will not be tolerated." **Chipotle guacamole:** Chipotle using avocado pits from its popular guacamole for new clothing, accessory line

Coronavirus prevention partnership: McDonald's partnering with Mayo Clinic on COVID-19 'infection prevention best practices'

Avoid these hand sanitizers

The FDA says the products are on its list for several reasons. They might contain methanol or may be labeled that they contain methanol. They also could have microbial contamination or be subpotent, which means "it has less than the required amount of ethyl alcohol, isopropyl alcohol or benzalkonium chloride."

Others were put on the list because they were "purportedly made at the same facility as products that have been tested by FDA and found to contain methanol."

Find more information, including the product code where available, on the FDA website.

Grupo Insoma S.A.P.I's Hand sanitizer Gel Unscented 70% Alcohol Mystic International's Mystic Shield Protection hand sanitizer Soluciones Cosmeticas's Bersih Hand Sanitizer Gel Fragrance Free Soluciones Cosmeticas's Bersih Antiseptic Alcohol 70% Topical Solution hand sanitizer Soluciones Cosmeticas's Purity Advanced Hand Sanitizer Tropicosmeticos's Britz Hand Sanitizer Ethyl Alcohol 70% Tropicosmeticos's Parabola Hand Sanitizer Tropicosmeticos's Urbane Bath and Body Hand Sanitizer Tropicosmeticos's Cleaner Hand Sanitizer Rinse Free 70% Tropicosmeticos's Handzer Hand Sanitizer Rinse Free Tropicosmeticos's Kleanz Antibacterial Hand Sanitizer Advanced Tropicosmeticos's Be Safe Hand Sanitizer Tropicosmeticos's Wave Hand Sanitizer Gel Eskbiochem's CleanCare NoGerm Advanced Hand Sanitizer 75% Alcohol Eskbiochem's Lavar 70 Gel Hand Sanitizer Eskbiochem's All-Clean Hand Sanitizer Eskbiochem's Esk Biochem Hand Sanitizer Eskbiochem's The Good Gel Antibacterial Gel Hand Sanitizer Eskbiochem's CleanCare NoGerm Advanced Hand Sanitizer 80% Alcohol

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Leiper's Fork Distillery 16 oz bottle Broncolin's Herbacil Antiseptic Hand Sanitizer 70% Alcohol Broncolin's Herbacil Antiseptic Hand Sanitizer 70% Alcohol Broncolin's Herbacil Antiseptic Hand Sanitizer 70% Alcohol Albek de Mexico's NEXT Hand Sanitizer Albek de Mexico's NuuxSan Instant Antibacterial Hand Sanitizer Albek de Mexico's NuuxSan Instant Hand Sanitizer Albek de Mexico's Assured Instant Antiseptic Hand Sanitizer with Aloe and **Moisturizers** Albek de Mexico's Assured Instant Antiseptic Hand Sanitizer with Vitamin E and Aloe Albek de Mexico's Modesa Instant Antiseptic Hand Sanitizer with Moisturizers and Aloe Vera Albek de Mexico's Modesa Instant Antiseptic Hand Sanitizer with Moisturizers and Vitamin E Healthy Foods & Nutrition Lab de Mexico's Medicare Alcohol Antiseptic Topical Solution Incredible Products's GelBact Hand Sanitizer Incredible Products's Hand Sanitizer Incredible Products's TriCleanz JG Atlas Comercios's Sayab Antisepctic Hand Sanitizer 100 Tritanium Labs USA's TriCleanz Tritanium Labs Hand Sanitizer DEPQ Internacional's dgreen Advanced Sanitizer Alcohol Free DEPQ Internacional's dgreen Advanced Hand Sanitizer Antibacterial Gel **DEPQ** Internacional's Hand Sanitizer DEPQ Internacional's Hand Sanitizer Gel DEPQ Internacional's Clean Humans Hand Sanitizer Notarika's Greenfrog Hand Sanitizing wipes Notarika's Greenfrog Hand Sanitizer Quimica Magna de Mexico's Datsen Hand Sanitizer Quimica Magna de Mexico's Alcohol Antiseptic 62% Hand Sanitizer Quimica Magna de Mexico's Bernal Hand Sanitizer Quimica Magna de Mexico's Alcohol Antiseptic 65% Hand Sanitizer; Alcohol Antiseptic 70% Hand Sanitizer Roque Plast's Command Gel AntiBac Instant hand sanitizer Spartan Chemical Co Inc.'s Lite 'n Foamy Lemon Blossom Hand Sanitizer

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Grupo Plast Y Kosas Sa De CV (Mexico)'s M Hand Sanitizer Alcohol Antiseptic topical solution 80% Topical Solution Hand Sanitizer Grupo Plast Y Kosas Sa De CV's (Mexico)'s Jalisco Paper Inc Restaurant Supplies Hand Sanitizer Grupo Plast Y Kosas Sa De CV's (Mexico)'s O.K. Pharmacy Hand Sanitizer Grupo Plast Y Kosas Sa De CV's (Mexico)'s Hand Sanitizer Alcohol Antiseptic topical solution 80% Open Book Extracts (North Carolina)'s Always Be Clean Hand Sanitizer Open Book Extracts (North Carolina)'s Always Be Clean Hand Sanitizer Open Book Extracts (North Carolina)'s Just Hand Sanitizer Single Use Packs Plastico Las Palmas SA de CV (Mexico)'s BV BYE Virus 99 Plastico Las Palmas SA de CV (Mexico)'s In Good Hands Hand Sanitizer Gel Santa Cruz Biotechnology (Texas)'s UltraCruz Hand Sanitizing Gel Antimicrobial SG24 LLC (Georgia)'s SkinGuard24 All-Day Hand Sanitizer Volu-Sol, Inc. (Utah)'s Volu-Sol Handrub Sanitizing Solution Yangzhou Olande Cosmetic Co. Ltd (China)'s Leafree Instant Hand Sanitizer

Recalled hand sanitizers

The following products have been recalled or recommended for recall as of Aug. 14:

ITECH 361's All Clean Hand Sanitizer, Moisturizer and Disinfectant: UPC code 628055370130.

Transliquid Technologies' Mystic Shield Protection hand sanitizer: NDC numbers include 75477-435-02, 75477-435-10, 75477-435-12, 75477-435-25, 75477-435-50 and 75477-534-10.

Saniderm Advanced Hand Sanitizer, 1-liter bottles: Two distributors. The UVT hand sanitizer is labeled with lot number 0530 and an expiration date of 04/2022 and the Saniderm Products hand sanitizer is labeled with lot number 53131626 and "Manufactured on April/1/20."

4e Brands North America's Blumen brand is "voluntarily recalling all lots of Hand Sanitizer brands to the consumer level." This is an expansion of an earlier recall. Real Clean Distribuciones is voluntarily recalling all lots it manufactured within expiry of the following brand names of hand sanitizers: "Born Basic ANTI-BAC HAND SANITIZER, Scent Theory KEEP CLEAN Moisturizing Hand Sanitizer, Scent Theory KEEP IT CLEAN Moisturizing Hand Sanitizer and Lux Eoi Hand Sanitizing Gel to the consumer level."

LIQ-E S.A. de C.V. is voluntarily recalling all lots and all bottle sizes of "The OPTIMUS Instant Hand Sanitizer" manufactured between April 27 and May 8.

Resource Recovery & Trading LLC is "voluntarily recalling all the lots manufactured by MXL Comercial S.A. de C.V." with the following information: "Hand Sanitizer 70% Ethyl Alcohol Disinfectant Gel, packaged in 6.7 FL Oz. (200 ml) bottles, UPC 650240026020 and Hand Sanitizer Non-sterile Solution 70% Topical Solution, packaged in 20L (5.28 Gal) liter plastic containers, UPC 37710600013 to the consumer level."

Broncolin is "voluntarily recalling all lots of Herbacil Antiseptic Hand Sanitizer 70% Alcohol to the consumer level." The hand sanitizer comes in four different sizes, according to the recall notice.

Albek de Mexico is "voluntarily recalling all lots and all brands of hand sanitizer currently in US distribution to the consumer level."

Roque Plast is "voluntarily recalling lots 200371-12, 200371OH-05, 170420OH-06, 170420OH-8 manufactured by Roque Plast S.A. de C.V. of Command Brands Gel AntiBac Instant Hand Sanitizer to the consumer level."

Incredible Products is voluntarily recalling one lot of "GELBAC T ANTIBACTERIAL HANDGEL, packaged in 1 liter /33.8 oz plastic bottles and 125ml/4.2 oz plastic bottles of to the consumer level" due to the potential presence of methanol.

Grupo Yacana Mexico SAS De Cv's Yacana Alcohol Antiseptic 70% Topical Solution Grupo Yacana Mexico SAS De Cv's Yacana Isopropyl Alcohol Antiseptic 70% Topical Solution

Grupo Yacana Mexico SAS De Cv's Yacana Clase Mundial Isopropyl Alcohol Antiseptic 70% Topical Solution or Gel

Harmonic Nature S de RL de MI (Mexico)'s Alcohol Antiseptic 75% Topical Solution Hand Sanitizer

Open Book Extracts (North Carolina)'s Always Be Clean Hand Sanitizer

Open Book Extracts (North Carolina)'s Just Hand Sanitizer Single Use Packs

Santa Cruz Biotechnology (Texas)'s UltraCruz Hand Sanitizing Gel Antimicrobial

SG24 LLC (Georgia)'s SkinGuard24 All-Day Hand Sanitizer

Volu-Sol, Inc. (Utah)'s Volu-Sol Handrub Sanitizing Solution

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