



FAQ

SARS-CoV-2

the Cause of COVID-19

Updated: 03/19/20

Does the CDC publish a list of disinfectants that are effective against SARS-CoV-2?

The EPA has not established any efficacy protocols for surface disinfectants because SARS-CoV-2 is so new. That said, it is a Coronavirus based syndrome which is an enveloped virus and is considered to be easy to inactivate on non-porous surfaces. The scientific community believes, based on its knowledge of the structure of Coronaviruses, that when an EPA protocol is established the results will show that if your surface disinfectant is effective for other Coronaviruses, such as the Human Coronavirus, it will be effective against the SARS-CoV-2.

In order to address public concern, the EPA enacted the Emerging Viral Pathogen Policy and established List N (registered disinfectants that have been proven effective against Human Coronavirus).

What is the EPA Emerging Viral Pathogen Policy?

The EPA announced that the EPA emerging pathogen policy was triggered on January 22, 2020. Registrants of products with the previously mentioned label amendment and terms of registration would be allowed to use the designated statement in off-label communications intended to inform the user community/public that the disinfectant product(s) may be used against the specific emerging viral pathogen. These off-label statements can inform the public about the utility of these products against the emerging pathogen in the most expeditious manner and can be more easily removed once the outbreak has ended than statements on a label. This guidance is not binding on EPA or any outside parties, and EPA may depart from the guidance where circumstances warrant and without prior notice.

Currently, two of Spartan's supplemental registrations are qualified to use this policy: BNC-15® (1056, 4856) and TB-Cide Quat® (1017, 1021).

What is the EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products for Use Against Novel Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, the Cause of COVID-19?

On March 3, 2020 the EPA issued a list of the registered disinfectants that have been authorized to make the emerging viral pathogen claim for SARS-CoV-2. To view this list, click here: https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2020-03/documents/sars-cov-2-list_03-03-2020.pdf

Why aren't any of Spartan's disinfectant listed on the list?

This list displays the primary registrant information only. All supplemental registrations or alternative brand names are not listed. Spartan's registration for TB-Cide Quat (#1839-83-5741) is included on this list. On March 5, 2020 the EPA acknowledged that there are omissions on the list and that it is not all-inclusive. Although BNC-15 was left off this list, it is in fact authorized to use the emerging viral pathogen claim. We have submitted a request to the EPA to have the list updated with this product. There are other Spartan disinfectants that have the potential to be authorized to use this policy. We will let you know if additional products are authorized.

Should we reference the CBC list?

Please note that other organizations may publish and circulate lists, the Center for Biocides list, for example. The EPA is the only organization with authority over disinfectants and is the most CREDIBLE source for information related to disinfectant registrations.

What is List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2?

On March 13, 2020 the EPA published List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2. List N includes products that meet EPA's criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2, the cause of COVID-19. This list includes products with emerging viral pathogen claims and those with human coronavirus claims.

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>

Which Spartan disinfectants are included on List N:

- BNC-15* (EPA# 6836-348-5741)
- TB-Cide Quat** (EPA# 1839-83-5741)
- Halt (EPA# 10324-93-5741)
- PSQ II (EPA# 10324-93-5741)
- HDQ Neutral (EPA# 10324-155-5741)
- Super HDQ Neutral (EPA# 10324-141-5741)
- HDQ C2 (EPA# 1839-169-5741)
- Super HDQ L10 (EPA# 1839-167-5741)
- GS Neutral (EPA# 1839-169-5741)
- GS Neutral High Dilution Disinfectant 256 (EPA# 1839-167-5741)
- Hard Surface Disinfecting Wipes, Lemon Scent (EPA# 1839-190-5741)
- Hard Surface Disinfecting Wipes, Fresh Scent (EPA# 1839-190-5741)
- NABC® Hard Surface Disinfecting Wipes Lemon Scent (EPA# 1839-190-5741)

Why doesn't Spartan have any products listed on List N?

This list displays the primary registrant information only. All supplemental registrations or alternative brand names are not listed. Spartan's products are marketed and sold under different brand names, but if they have the same EPA registration number, they are the same product.

How do I find the EPA registration number on Spartan products?

To find the EPA registration number on Spartan products, look directly below the Active Ingredients listing. You will see that the registration number for HALT (1018, 4806) is 10324-93-5741. While the Halt brand name is not listed on List N, you will find a match for 10324-93. The suffix "5741" is Spartan's EPA establishment number.



Does the Health Canada publish a list of disinfectants that are effective against SARS-CoV-2?

According to Health Canada, environmental cleaning products registered in Canada with a Drug Identification Number and labeled as broad-spectrum virucide are sufficient. Spartan's Canadian broad-spectrum disinfectants are:

- Damp Mop Quat (106504C)
- Super Neutral L (120904C)

Are hand hygiene products regulated by the EPA?

Antimicrobial hand hygiene products are regulated by The Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The FDA monograph (the FDA's set of rules and regulations) specifies the acceptable active ingredients and their use level. The two most popular on the market today are Ethanol (Alcohol) and Benzalkonium Chloride.

Why doesn't Spartan list the viruses that its hand hygiene products kill?

Unlike EPA registered disinfectants, FDA regulated products, such as antimicrobial handwashes or antibacterial hand sanitizers, do not undergo viral efficacy testing at the agency. The monograph assumes the active ingredients have antimicrobial activity, and responsible manufacturers self-verify their formula's efficacy against a list of 26 organisms including bacteria, yeast, and mold. This list of organisms is recommended by the FDA.

Making anti-viral claims or reduction in illness claims are considered false and misleading under the monograph. Making these claims could cause the FDA to issue a warning letter and a request (an order) to cease and desist making the claims.

Many customers may inquire about antimicrobial efficacy against specific organisms. Example: "What hand sanitizer kills COVID-19". This request may seem reasonable; however, the FDA considers making specific antimicrobial claims as a claim of preventing infection by the organism in humans and making these claims is prohibited. In special cases, infection control nurses or environmental services personnel may request efficacy data, but companies are never permitted to market efficacy data associated with a product.

Is alcohol sanitizer better than benzalkonium chloride sanitizers?

Ethanol (alcohol) and benzalkonium chloride have different modes of efficacy. Alcohol has high kill but evaporates in 15 seconds or so and has no continued efficacy. Benzalkonium chloride formulas such as Spartan's Lemon Blossom Hand Sanitizer have increasing efficacy over time. Our efficacy data demonstrates that the log kill goes up significantly from 15 seconds to 30 seconds. Both are effective at reducing the number of bacterial on the hands.

Why does the CDC only recommend alcohol sanitizers?

Approximately 15 years ago, the CDC began recommending greater than 60% alcohol hand sanitizers based on both limited available data and lobbying from the largest alcohol hand sanitizer manufacturer. In the past 15 years, many studies have been done on benzalkonium chloride that contradict the CDC's statements. Interestingly, many of the claims made by the CDC would be considered FALSE and MISLEADING by the FDA if Spartan or other manufacturers made the claims because there simply is not enough evidence that they are true. The CDC recommending alcohol is a recommendation only. The CDC has done no testing or studies of hand sanitizers effectiveness. It is the CDC's opinion and nothing more.

Which Spartan products are registered and approved by the FDA for antimicrobial activity?

- foamiQ Lemon Blossom Hand Sanitizer (4604)
- foamiQ Eucalyptus Mint Sanitizing Handwash (4603)
- foamiQ Healthcare Personnel Handwash (4605)
- foamiQ E2 Sanitizing Handwash (4606)
- Lite'n Foamy Lemon Blossom Hand Sanitizer (3338)
- Lite'n Foamy Eucalyptus Mint Sanitizing Handwash (3337)
- Lite'n Foamy Healthcare Personnel Handwash (3341)
- Lite'n Foamy E2 Sanitizing Handwash (3339)
- Lite'n Foamy E3 Hand Sanitizer (3340)

Does the CDC recommend electrostatic sprayers?

Electrostatic sprayers are one of many options that can be used to apply disinfectants to hard surfaces. Most disinfectants require pre-cleaning in order to decontaminate the surface prior to disinfection. Specific to SARS-CoV-2, the CDC is recommending a multi-step cleaning process with pre-cleaning preceding disinfection and observing recommended dwell times and post dwell cleaning instructions.

Are there specific instructions for cleaning airports?

The same procedures for any public facility would apply to airports. The CDC recommendations for airline personnel can be found here: https://www.faa.gov/other_visit/aviation_industry/airline_operators/airline_safety/safo/all_safos/media/2020/SAFO20001.pdf

What is dwell time?

Dwell time is the required period of time that a surface must remain wet in order for a disinfectant to perform completely. Check the product label for dwell time requirements as this is specific to each product.

What is the difference between disinfection and decontamination?

According to the EPA, disinfection is 100% kill of named organisms on the disinfectant product label. Per OSHA's Bloodborne Pathogen Standard, decontamination means the use of physical or chemical means to remove, inactivate, or destroy bloodborne pathogens on a surface or item to the point where they are no longer capable of transmitting infectious particles and the surface or item is rendered safe for handling, use, or disposal.

What is the mode of transmission for Novel Coronavirus?

The most common transmission of all Coronaviruses is airborne (sneezing and coughing). The second most common transmission is through close contact with an infected person (shaking hands, etc.). Coronavirus may possibly be transmitted by contacting a contaminated surface and then rubbing your eyes, ears, nose, or mouth.

What is the recommended duration for hand washing and sanitizing?

The CDC recommends that you lather your hands for at least 20 seconds before rinsing. With waterless sanitizers, it is recommended that hands remain wet with sanitizer product for at least 30 seconds.

How do you protect yourself when cleaning for Novel Coronavirus?

The CDC recommends adherence to Standard, Contact, and Airborne Precautions, Including the Use of Eye Protection. The specifics may be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/infection-control.html>

Does UV disinfection work for Novel Coronavirus?

Currently this is an unresolved issue with EPA.

Is Novel Coronavirus the same as SARS?

According to the CDC: No. Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing illness in people and others that circulate among animals, including camels, cats and bats. The recently emerged SARS-CoV-2 is not the same as the coronavirus that causes Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) or the coronavirus that causes Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). However, genetic analyses suggest this virus emerged from a virus related to SARS. There are ongoing investigations to learn more. This is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as it becomes available.

Is microfiber effective for Novel Coronavirus clean up?

Microfiber is effective for pre-cleaning steps, as well as disinfectant application. Over time, with repeated laundering microfiber will lose its charge and become less effective for cleaning.

Do you recommend spray or wiping disinfectants?

Wiping is a more appropriate way of cleaning for disinfection. Spraying can actually cause surface contamination to aerosolize. The bloodborne pathogen standard may apply and provides suggestions.

According to the Guidelines of Environmental infection control for cleaning up bloodborne pathogens. "A suggested technique when flooding the spill with germicide is to lay absorbent material down on the spill and apply sufficient germicide to thoroughly wet both the spill and the absorbent material."

Can we use Spartan Disinfectants in a fogger?

Our products do not have use directions for that application. Fogging as a method of disinfection is discouraged for two very good reasons:

1. Lack of effectiveness. If a surface is dirty, the organic soil can shield microorganisms from contact with the disinfectant. Fogging also may not thoroughly wet all environmental surfaces. Physical cleaning is extremely important to ensure the proper action of the disinfectant. If environmental surfaces are thoroughly cleaned using an EPA registered disinfectant, additional actions like fogging become unnecessary.
2. Health Hazards. The fogging procedure produces very small droplets of the disinfectant. These droplets are easily inhaled and can penetrate deep into the lungs. Great care must be taken that no one will be exposed to the disinfectant fog. Individuals with respiratory ailments or asthma will react severely if exposed. The legal liability a public institution is exposing itself to here is great.

The Centers for Disease Control in their publication, "Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Healthcare Facilities" also discourages the use of disinfectant fogging in patient care areas.

"F. Do not perform disinfectant fogging in patient-care areas.2, 976 Category IB

G. Avoid large-surface cleaning methods that produce mists or aerosols or disperse dust in patient-care areas.9, 20, 109, 272 Category IB"

What is a one-step disinfectant?

A one-step disinfectant has been verified by the EPA to be effective against named organisms in the presence of 5% blood serum solution. These products generally do not require pre-cleaning in order to disinfect a hard surface as long as dwell time is observed. However, related to Novel Coronavirus, the CDC is recommending a multi-step cleaning process including pre-cleaning prior to disinfection.

Does the FDA monograph allow manufacturers to provide efficacy guidance for hand washes and sanitizers?

No, hand washes and sanitizers are over the counter drugs regulated by the FDA. The FDA monograph specifies the type of active and level used. Regarding efficacy, hand cleaners do not follow the same guidelines that hard surface disinfectants and sanitizers are subjected to. Invitro efficacy testing may be done on antimicrobial hand cleaner formulas but may not be used to promote prevention of any specific disease or organism.



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