

Debunking the Myths

6 Common Myths

About Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer



MYTH #1

All germs are the same.

TRUTH

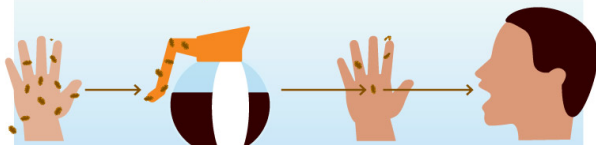
There are two types of germs: **RESIDENT** and **TRANSIENT**



RESIDENT GERMS are normal inhabitants of the skin.



TRANSIENT GERMS may cause illness. They are picked up from touching things.



A sick person touches something that has **transient germs**.

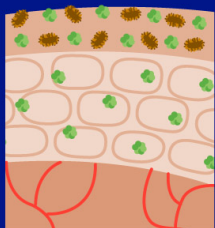
A healthy person touches it, and the **germs** are transferred to that person, and they may get sick.

MYTH #2

Hand sanitizer kills all the good germs on hands.

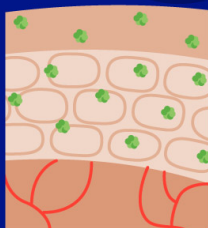
TRUTH

Sanitizer kills germs on the surface of hands. Good germs remain deep within skin layers and can quickly grow back.



BEFORE

Good germs and illness-causing germs both live on the skin's surface. Good germs also live deep within skin layers.



AFTER

The good germs deep within skin layers remain untouched while the good germs on the surface quickly grow back.

MYTH #3

Using hand sanitizer creates antibiotic resistance to supergerms.

TRUTH

Alcohol-based hand sanitizers do not cause antibiotic resistance.

antibiotic resistance or
create supergerms.

There is confusion around antibiotics and
antibacterial products today.
These products are not the same.



ALCOHOL-BASED
HAND SANITIZER

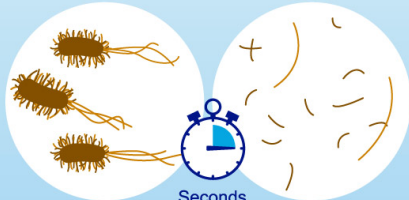


ANTIBACTERIAL
SOAP



ANTIBIOTICS

Alcohol-based hand sanitizer kills germs by
destroying germ cell walls instantly and evaporates quickly
so there's no chance for germs to become resistant.



TRANSIENT GERMS
BEFORE

TRANSIENT GERMS
AFTER

MYTH #4

Alcohol-based and
non-alcohol-based
products are
the same.

TRUTH

Experts like the CDC, WHO,
and Health Canada recommend
alcohol-based sanitizers over any
other type of hand sanitizer.¹



Alcohol is
the active
ingredient.
If you're not
sure, read
the label.

MYTH #5

PURELL® Hand Sanitizer
dries out hands.

TRUTH

Formulation Matters:
PURELL Hand Sanitizer contains
moisturizers that are proven
to maintain skin health.

Studies show PURELL Hand
Sanitizer is gentler on hands than
soap and water because it does not
strip natural lipids away from hands.²

MYTH #6

Alcohol-based hand
sanitizers contain
triclosan.

TRUTH

PURELL Hand Sanitizer
DOES NOT
contain triclosan.

1. Refer to World Health Organization, http://www.who.int/gpsc/hand/handwashing_system_change/en/,
Health Canada, <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cch/vs/vh/vs/antiseptics/maladies/mains-eng.php>,
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyour/hand/handwashing.html>
2. <http://www.purell.com/healthyyour/hand/handwashing.html>

