

July 30, 2020

COM-2020-055

DRUG SAFETY NOTIFICATION



DATE: July 27, 2020

PRODUCT: Hand Sanitizer

SAFETY TOPIC: FDA Reiterates Warning About Dangerous Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizers Containing Methanol, Takes Additional Action to Address Concerning Products

Dear provider of pharmaceutical services,

PharmPix is committed to the health and wellness of our members. The clinical team wants to communicate you with the latest up-to-date information on drug safety. It is for this reason that we are notifying you that the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) continues to warn not to use certain alcohol-based hand sanitizers due to the dangerous presence of methanol, or wood alcohol. Methanol can be toxic when absorbed through the skin or ingested and can be life-threatening when ingested.

In addition, the FDA:

- Has taken action to help prevent certain hand sanitizers from entering the United States by placing them on an import alert.
- Is working with manufacturers to recall products.
- Is encouraging retailers to remove products from store shelves and online marketplaces.

Please visit the FDA's website to read the [FDA Press Release](#) for additional important details and to review the updated [list of hand sanitizer products with methanol](#).

Recommendations for healthcare professionals:

- Advise patients regarding this issue.
- If in stock, remove affected products.

- Report adverse events or side effects at [MedWatch: The FDA Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program](#) by any of the following ways:
 - Complete and submit the [MedWatch Online Voluntary Reporting Form](#) online.
 - [Download](#) FDA Form 3500 or call 1-800-332-1088 to request a reporting form, then complete and return to the address on the pre-addressed form or submit by fax to 1-800-FDA-0178.

Additional information can be found at: [FDA's Drug Safety and Availability portal](#).

If you have any questions or wish to have more information regarding this document, you can call us at 787-522-5252, extension 137. In addition, know that you can access our recent communications at our providers' portal: <https://www.pharmpix.com/providers/>.

Regards,

PharmPix Clinical Department

Reference:

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Reiterates Warning About Dangerous Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizers Containing Methanol, Takes Additional Action to Address Concerning Products. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. (2020). Retrieved 30 July 2020, from <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-reiterates-warning-about-dangerous-alcohol-based-hand-sanitizers>.