



HAND SANITIZER TOXICITIES



Hand sanitizers contain active ingredients known as alcohols. Most commonly, these include ethanol or isopropyl alcohol. This infographic is designed to provide you with the basics to recognizing how these products work, what to do when your child has been exposed to toxic amounts of these alcohols, and where to go to find additional resources.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1



PURPOSE: Hand sanitizer is designed to be a disinfectant or antiseptic.

2



HOW IT WORKS: Active ingredients work to kill bacteria by stopping them from growing and reproducing.

MUST BE > 60% ALCOHOL TO BE EFFECTIVE

Sanitizers do not lose their effectiveness over time.

3



HOW TO USE:

1. Apply one pump into palms of child's hands.
2. Help rub child's hands together palm-to-palm. Include between fingers and backs of hands.
3. Continue until hands are dry.

SUSPECTED TOXICITY

CAUTIONS:

Although rare with routine use, alcohols in sanitizer do pose a risk for toxicity if used incorrectly or ingested.

When exposed, alcohols (ethanol or isopropyl alcohol) are broken down further into toxic metabolites that can cause undesirable effects.

Symptoms of Alcohol Toxicity:

upset stomach, gastritis, bad taste in mouth, irritability, drowsiness, dizziness, flank pain



What NOT to do!

AVOID intentionally trying to make your child vomit after accidental exposure. This can cause unintentional harm to the child and/or make the child more uncomfortable.

Warning!

Inappropriately manufactured sanitizers may contain methanol, a toxic alcohol. When ingested, even in small amounts, it can lead to dangerous outcomes like blindness, kidney failure, and possibly death.

For more information, check out the FDA recall list to make sure your product is safe for use.

RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT



OBSERVE & SYMPTOMATIC CARE



OFFER SNACK OR WATER TO RID OF TASTE IN MOUTH



CALL POISON CONTROL CENTER

RESOURCES

POISON CONTROL CENTER

Call the Poison Control Center for toxicity exposure and emergencies.

1-800-222-1222

FDA RECALL LISTS

Use the following link to review FDA consumer updates on sanitizer quality and contamination.

[HTTPS://WWW.FDA.GOV/CONSUMERS/CONSUMER-UPDATES/YOUR-HAND-SANITIZER-FDAS-LIST-PRODUCTS-YOU-SHOULD-NOT-USE](https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/your-hand-sanitizer-fdas-list-products-you-should-not-use)