



## ARC SAC Answers Hand Hygiene Product for First Aid Kits

Scientific Advisory Council

### **Questions to be addressed:**

*What is the recommendation for a waterless hand hygiene product for first aid and/or disaster kits?*

### **Answer:**

Using the *ARC Scientific Advisory Council Scientific Review- Hand Hygiene Final Approved October 2010*, the recommendation for a waterless hand hygiene product includes\*:

- concentration 60%–95% alcohol
- either isopropyl or ethyl alcohol are acceptable

Factors to be considered in identifying a product to be placed in a first aid kit or disaster kit:

- disposable foil type packets helpful in making sure the recommended amount is used
  - foil packets limit cross contamination
  - Emergency or Disaster kits may consider multiple use bottle for rationing to serve more people
- appropriate quantity for intended use (i.e., clean hand pre & post care; sheltering in place)
- adequate quantity supplied to ensure proper application of a palmful of alcohol-based handrub and adequate coverage for the entire surfaces of both hands for each application
- expiration date labeled on any item must be considered
- appropriate packaging for durability and accessibility
- storage temperature range must be considered which would include possible storage locations including environmental disaster (cold or heat) and areas like cars.

\*For visibly soiled hands, wash with soap and water before using a waterless hand sanitizer.