

Hand Sanitizers

They sound innocent enough. Bottles of hand sanitizers that advertise that they kill more than 99 percent of germs are being widely used in homes, hospitals, child care facilities, doctor's offices, dentist offices and anywhere else where the threat of germs and bacteria lurks. Now with the threat of H1N1 (swine) flu, they are frequently seen in the classroom, either brought in by the teacher or sent in with the student by well-meaning parents.

Unfortunately, these bottles of hand sanitizer are heavily laden with alcohol, as much as 62 percent ethyl alcohol.

There are dangers associated with their use. So, please remember:

- The unsettling reality is that a small child could die from ingesting only a single ounce of these hand sanitizers.
- Hand sanitizers are also highly flammable; keep away from flames or high temperatures.
- Always store alcohol based hand sanitizers where children can't access them.
- Return them to their designated spot after each use.
- Supervise children when using hand sanitizers
- Use them only when necessary and avoid applying them to the hands of young children who may stick their hands into their mouth.
- Try to limit the use of using these sanitizers always try to avoid using hand sanitizers over water and soap (Only use instant hand sanitizers when you have no sink or soap).
- Wash your hands with soap and water before eating; finding the taste of hand sanitizer after licking your fingers is never pleasant and potentially dangerous.
- Watch out where you put the gel!
 - You don't want it in cuts or your eyes.
- Only use where intended—
 - NEVER use it for cleaning, residual table tops or toys can be ingested by children.
- Don't over use—
 - A dime-sized amount on your palm is recommended your hands!