

News Release

Improved Public Information Available about the Efficacy of Disinfectant Products against H1N1

OTTAWA, December 2, 2009 – Manufacturers have now been permitted by Health Canada to state if their disinfectant products have been proven effective against H1N1 and other viruses.

In a recent notice to all Canadians, Health Canada advises consumers to look for the following information when selecting a disinfectant for their homes:

- the product is authorized for sale in Canada with a Drug Identification Number (DIN);
- the label has a "general virucidal" claim and/or acknowledges effective testing against Polio virus, Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus (BVDV), Vaccinia virus and/or Influenza A virus and;
- the label outlines the recommended conditions of use, such as the dilution rates and contact times.

As a result of this action, consumers can soon expect to see the following statements on approved product web sites, technical literature, "1-800" consumer information services, and other consumer communications:

- "Respiratory illnesses attributable to 2009 (H1N1) pandemic are caused by Influenza A virus. This product (Product Name) is a general virucidal hard surface disinfectant that is expected to inactivate the 2009 (H1N1) pandemic Influenza A virus".
- "Kills (surrogate name) and is likely to kill the current Influenza A H1N1 virus".
- "Effective against (surrogate name) and likely to kill 2009 (H1N1) pandemic Influenza A virus."
- "This product has demonstrated effectiveness against (surrogate name) and is expected to inactivate all Influenza A viruses including 2009 (H1N1) pandemic Influenza A virus."

Shannon Coombs, President of the Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association (CCSPA), said "CCSPA has been working tirelessly with Health Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada to ensure that Canadians have access to accurate information regarding disinfectants and their efficacy against H1N1. We are pleased that Health Canada has now provided this useful and authoritative guidance on what type of disinfectants consumers should be using in and around their homes to help fight dangerous viruses."

CCSPA is committed to providing information to assist Canadians during this pandemic of H1N1. For more information about protecting your family from the flu, please visit: <http://www.healthycleaning101.org/english/media.html>

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