

## FAQs for

# ProSpray™ wipes

Surface Disinfectant/Cleaner Towelettes



### What are ProSpray wipes?

ProSpray wipes are a ready-to-use surface disinfectant/cleaner in a convenient pre-saturated towelette format. This product contains the same reliable formula as regular ProSpray liquid disinfectant. Both products are tuberculocidal intermediate-level disinfectants approved for use in medical and dental settings. ProSpray wipes feature a light lemon scent making frequent disinfection tasks more pleasant for healthcare workers. Low toxicity profile demonstrated through lab testing allows EPA approval to use ProSpray wipes with bare hands in the absence of biohazards.

### Why are leading infection control experts encouraging use of disinfectant wipes?

- Reduce aerosols, improving the environment for health care workers. CDC Guidelines state: "Preferred cleaning methods produce minimal mists and aerosols or dispersion of dust in patient care areas."
- Disinfection of sensitive electronics where liquid sprays are contraindicated such as keyboards, switches, digital radiographic sensors, keypads, etc.

### What is the special advantage of the ProSpray wipes textile?

The high quality textile effectively holds and disperses disinfectant solution; is non-abrasive; and quickly collects soils during the cleaning step. Disinfection is more efficient and effective.

### What is the benefit of "non-alcohol actives" in the ProSpray wipes formula?

- Disinfectants with alcohol tend to evaporate more quickly, sometimes before the full contact time required.
- Alcohol denatures blood and other protein soil, making it adhere to surfaces.
- Long term use of disinfectants with alcohol may cause tubing, vinyls and plastic housing to crack and discolor.
- The Centers for Disease Control advise that alcohol based disinfectants are not effective for environmental control of *Clostridium difficile*.

The ProSpray water based formula is kinder to expensive equipment, stays wet longer for best contact time and provides the cleaning properties needed for ideal disinfection.

### How should ProSpray wipes be used?

Following CDC recommendations, clean first then disinfect. ProSpray wipes have powerful detergents and are effective for both steps.

- Remove and unfold one or more towelettes as needed to clean surfaces thoroughly.
- Use sufficient wipes for each area. Studies show that overuse of one wipe over a large area will spread contamination.
- Discard used towelette(s).
- Using a fresh towelette, reapply disinfectant and allow surface to remain moist for remaining contact time stated on the label.

### Do ProSpray wipes have an EPA registration?

Yes, they are regulated as a General Purpose, hard surface cleaner/disinfectant by the EPA and as such have undergone the required AOAC testing with subsequent registration # 46851-10.

### Do ProSpray wipes have residual antimicrobial properties on surfaces?

Yes, phenolics have demonstrated persistence of antimicrobial action on surfaces after the initial application. This action retards the regrowth of microbes on surfaces. Disinfectants with alcohol, bleach or quaternary ammonium actives do not demonstrate this property. ➤

### **Can ProSpray wipes inactivate MRSA and H1N1 (Swine Flu) viruses?**

Yes, ProSpray wipes are lab tested and approved by the EPA to kill MRSA-related staphylococcus aureus and Influenza A organism, in which H1N1 is classified.

### **The ProSpray wipes label lists a claim to kill tuberculosis bacteria. What about Hepatitis B and C?**

The tuberculosis kill claim is used as a benchmark by the CDC (federal Centers for Disease Control) to designate ProSpray wipes as an intermediate-level disinfectant suitable for use where blood and other human soils are likely. The CDC also states that any germicide with a tuberculocidal claim on the label is considered capable of inactivating a broad spectrum of less resistant blood borne pathogens such as HIV, and Hepatitis B and C.

### **How long can I use ProSpray wipes?**

This product has a 2 year shelf-life with the expiration date marked on the container. Close the container between removal of towelettes to maintain best saturation. Store this product away from excessive heat and cold. Do not allow to freeze.

### **Can ProSpray wipes be used along with liquid ProSpray disinfectant?**

Yes! Infection control experts are warning clinicians about the dangers of “mixing and matching” different brands and categories of chemicals. With the same formula for both products, ProSpray wipes and liquid ProSpray may be safely used together.

### **Do ProSpray wipes provide adequate cleaning?**

Yes! ProSpray wipes have excellent detergents and surfactants in the formula. The wipes are very saturated and provide all the cleaning action necessary to ensure full contact of disinfectant.

### **Why is cleaning the most important step of the environmental disinfectant process?**

- Organic body soils such as blood and inorganic dust soils act as a barrier between chemical disinfectants and germs on surfaces. Organic soils “absorb” chemical action and reduce antimicrobial efficacy especially in the case of bleach and alcohols.
- Some soils such as fecal matter and blood may sustain dangerous organisms over several days on otherwise dry surfaces.
- Patients perceive effective disinfection through sight and smell. The cleaning power and pleasant light lemon scent of ProSpray wipes provides reassurance to patients.

### **What is the chemical basis of the ProSpray wipes formula?**

This product is a water based dual synthetic phenolic compound - two man made phenolics: o-phenylphenol and o-benzyl-p-chlorophenol. Synthetic phenolics combine reliable disinfectant qualities with demonstrated low toxicity. Recent independent lab testing allows EPA approval to use ProSpray wipes with bare hands in the absence of biohazards. ProSpray wipes are the original water based dual synthetic phenolic in wipe towelette format and provide a higher concentration of active agents than competitive phenolics.

### **Will ProSpray wipes stain surfaces?**

No, they are non-staining and non-bleaching but after repeated use may leave a white residue film from the surfactants in the formula. It is easily removed by simply wiping surfaces with plain water and paper towels on a regular basis (at least weekly).

#### *References:*

*CDC Guidelines for Disinfection and Sterilization in Healthcare Facilities, 2008.*