



## Virusan®

# An Alcohol Based Anti-microbial Cleansing Rub Technical Information

### Description & Application:

Virusan is a theatre grade alcohol based hand sanitizer / cleaner that is specially formulated for use in medical, healthcare and Veterinary applications.

The formulation, containing Chlorhexidine Gluconate, a broad-spectrum antimicrobial that exerts its properties by disrupting microbial cell membranes, is highly effective as a disinfectant and terminal sanitizer against bacteria, fungi, yeasts, moulds and viruses. The product is designed to eliminate the risk of cross-infection from hand transfer of these organisms.

Primary features attributable to Virusan are:

- Suitable for disinfection and sanitizing of hands and skin;
- Highly effective over a wide range of viruses, bacteria, fungi, yeasts and moulds;
- Non-selective;
- Versatile, simple to use and cost effective.

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### Applications

Virusan is ideal for removing biohazards in medical, healthcare and Veterinary applications, where the risk of cross-infection needs to be eliminated.

Virusan is suitable for disinfection and sanitizing of hands and skin in:

- Pre-operative surgical theatres;
- Antiseptic hand wash on medical wards;
- Food manufacturing operatives;
- Areas where high hygiene standards are needed.



Certificate No. GB06/69741

## Compatibility

Virusan is compatible with a wide range of rubbers, plastics and fabric materials. Hypochlorite based bleach may induce the formation of brown stains in fabrics that have previously been in contact with preparations containing Chlorhexidine.

## Health and Safety

Virusan is highly flammable. It is formulated for direct skin contact applications and is fully biodegradable. Irritation effects arising from reaction to Chlorhexidine can occasionally occur and a generalised allergic reaction has also been reported but cases are extremely rare. Prolonged contact with ethanolic solutions should be avoided

See Material Safety Data Sheets for details.

## Typical Properties

Appearance	Colourless liquid
Odour	Alcoholic odour
pH,	6.5 to 7.0 units (neat)
Density, g/cm <sup>3</sup> @ 20 °C	0.88
Solubility in water	Completely miscible
Flash Point (Abel closed cup), °C	16

Shelf Life: 5 years in unopened original containers when stored between 0 °C and 35 °C out of direct sunlight.

Virusan skin sanitizer contains Chlorhexidine Gluconate that has been shown to be an effective antimicrobial agent. Studies demonstrated a significant, or at least a 2 log, reduction in colony-forming units on hand surfaces washed with a 4 percent Chlorhexidine Gluconate compared with a control.

Chlorhexidine has broad-spectrum activity; it exhibits varying degrees of activity against different types of organisms. Studies have shown that Chlorhexidine is more effective against gram-positive bacteria than it is against gram-negative bacteria; is minimally active against tubercle bacillus; is somewhat effective against fungi; demonstrates in vitro activity against HIV, herpes simplex virus, cytomegalovirus and influenza; *Bacillus atrophaeus* spore (a surrogate of *B. anthracis*) contamination. Furthermore, antibiotic resistance may be predictive of a decreased susceptibility of microbes to Chlorhexidine.

The antimicrobial effect of alcohol-based antiseptics is more rapid than that of Chlorhexidine; however, a comparable reduction in flora is achieved after 30 seconds of hand washing.

Chlorhexidine binds strongly to skin, mucosa and other tissues, resulting in a persistent antimicrobial effect. This binding affinity also results in poor percutaneous and oral absorption. The activity of Chlorhexidine is reduced in the presence of organic soil.

The safety of Chlorhexidine Gluconate has been demonstrated for cleansing the skin of adults and infants, with a low potential for eliciting dermal reactions.

Virusan is effective against bacteria, fungi, yeasts, moulds and lipophilic viruses.

## **Directions for Use**

Virusan is supplied as a ready to use preparations that should be used as supplied.  
Virusan is for external use only.  
Avoid contact with the brain, meninges or the middle ear. Do not use in body cavities.

### **Application:**

#### **Pre-operative Cleaning and Disinfection:**

Dispense about 5 ml of Virusan and spread thoroughly over both hands and forearms, rubbing briskly for about 15 seconds. When dry, apply a further 5 ml and repeat the procedure.

#### **Ward Cleaning and Disinfection:**

Antiseptic hand disinfection is achieved by dispensing 5 ml of Virusan and spreading thoroughly over the hands and wrists, rubbing vigorously for 15 seconds or until dry.

#### **Disinfection of Patients Skin prior to surgery, etc:**

Apply Virusan to a sterile swab and rub thoroughly over the required area / operation site for a minimum of 2 minutes.

Note: There are no special application requirements for either elderly patients or children. Normal adult application procedures, as stated above, should be sufficient.

## **CONTACT DETAILS:**

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## **Packaging Details:**

Virusan is available in the following packaging.

- 100 ml plastic containers
- 500 ml plastic containers with dispensing head.
- 1 litre containers
- 5 Litre containers