

13 April 2020

ADVISORY FOR ALCOHOL-BASED HAND SANITISERS TO CONTAIN FLAMMABLE WARNING LABELS

Dear Retailers

1 The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) would like to bring to your attention that all alcohol-based hand sanitisers should carry the appropriate warnings that it is flammable and should be kept away from flame and heat. Alcohol-based hand sanitisers are generally flammable especially if they contain a high concentration of alcohol.

2 HSA's guidelines on hand sanitisers (which are categorised as topical antiseptics) is available online at <https://www.hsa.gov.sg/topical-antiseptics/overview>. It takes reference from the WHO Guidelines on Hand Hygiene in Healthcare, which states that alcohol-based hand sanitisers should be labelled with "Flammable: keep away from flame and heat".

3 Please ensure that alcohol-based hand sanitisers which contain more than 60% alcohol concentration and in volumes >100mL are clearly labelled with the phrase "**Flammable, keep away from flame and heat**". Where space on the label permits, please include the relevant graphic warnings (an example is shown below). For hand sanitisers in smaller quantities (<100mL), it is highly recommended to have either the flammable warning phrase or relevant graphic warning in place.



4 HSA will conduct checks to ensure that these warning labels are carried on alcohol-based hand sanitisers.

5 Please contact the HSA Vigilance and Compliance Branch at Tel: 6866 1111 (please select 'Option 5' followed by 'Option 2' when selecting from the Interactive Voice Response call options) or email: HSA_Info@hsa.gov.sg should you have further enquiries on this matter.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely



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