



4590 Dufferin Street

Toronto, Ontario
Canada, M3H 5S5
TEL: 416-667-7040
FAX: 416-667-0071

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S A R S a n d N o r w a l k V i r u s

Two major public health issues have arisen in the past 6 months that can be addressed.

- I. Norwalk virus is caused by a non-enveloped virus in the family calcivirus. It is non-enveloped**
- II. SARS is caused, in all likelihood, by a virus called Corona virus of the family Coronaviridae. Corona virus is enveloped**

- 1) Types of viruses
 - a) Two types of viruses exist,
 - i) Enveloped, or coated. This coating is a lipid. Lipid coating makes the virus more susceptible to detergents and alcohols, especially alcohol based disinfectants with detergents.
 - ii) Non-enveloped. These are more primitive viruses. They are also more difficult to kill by disinfection.
- 2) What is effective?
 - a) A disinfectant that kills non-enveloped viruses such as Canine Parvovirus or Poliovirus will kill other non-enveloped viruses such as Norwalk. A disinfectant that will kill non-enveloped viruses will kill enveloped viruses such as Corona virus.
- 3) How can one protect oneself?
 - a) Universal precautions are always the best protection against any infective disease. These are
 - b) Hand washing (most authorities such as CDC recommend alcohol hand rubs because they disinfect but damage hands less.
 - c) Barriers such as gloves and masks (R095)
 - d) Disposal of potential infective materials.
 - e) Appropriate disinfection.
- 4) What disinfectants work?
 - a) Alcohol based disinfectants are best. These include products from Micrylium which have proven Parvo virus kill.

BioSURF™

50 seconds Parvovirus kill

BioTEXT™

5 minutes Parvovirus kill

Sahara Green Oasis™

Ethanol based hand rub-sanitizer

Gibraltar Orange Oasis™

Wax based barrier and disinfecting cream

- 1) What does not work?
 - a) Products that have limited and poor antiviral activity include phenols and quaternary ammonium chemicals. Their viral activity is poor and they perform badly in the presence of any contaminants such as soil, blood or sputum

Andris Kalupnieks BSc DDS
Manager Clinical and Regulatory Affairs
Micrylium Laboratories Inc.

Indar Maharaj PhD
Director of Microbiology,
Biolenia Laboratories