

SC Johnson Statement On Recent Unfounded Concerns Over DEET

We understand that a recent study has been published that raised questions over the safety of DEET products. SC Johnson wants to make it very clear that when used according to directions printed on the label, all of our products are safe to use, including those that may contain DEET, such as our Autan® brand of insect repellents.

DEET is the active chemical ingredient used in many insect repellents. A 2002 article in the New England Journal of Medicine declared DEET to be the “gold standard” in mosquito repellent ingredients. It is highly effective at repelling pests such as mosquitoes, which may carry diseases such as dengue and West Nile Virus, and ticks that may carry Lyme disease. DEET was first registered in the United States for general public use in 1957 and has been applied many billions of times by people for 50 years. SC Johnson makes a variety of DEET products under the Autan® and OFF!® brand names.

The World Health Organization recommends DEET, as does the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, the Prince Leopold Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp, Belgium, the National Travel Health Network and Centre in the United Kingdom, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the United States. Regulatory bodies such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have concluded that normal use of DEET does not present a health concern to the general population. In addition the American Academy of Pediatrics has information on using DEET products on children.
<http://www.aap.org/family/wnv-jun03.htm>

Pest control products should always be used according to directions printed on the label. Here are some steps for safe use of DEET and other repellents:

- Read and adhere to all directions and precautions on the product label.
- Use just enough repellent to cover exposed skin. Do not over-apply.
- To apply to face, spray on hands first and then rub on skin.
- Do not apply to hands or near the eyes or mouth of children.
- Apply the product to younger children rather than allowing them to apply it themselves.
- After returning indoors, wash treated skin with soap and water.
- Do not spray in enclosed areas.

As a family company, nothing is more important to us than the health and wellbeing of the families who use SC Johnson products. Our products meet or exceed the high standards and regulations set by government regulatory agencies in the European Union, the United States, Canada, and other global markets in which they are sold. Consumers can continue to use our Autan® brand products knowing that when used according to directions printed on the label, they are safe products.

Relevant Links:

American Academy of Pediatrics - <http://www.aap.org/family/wnv-jun03.htm>

European Union Center for Disease Prevention and Control -
http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/Health_Topics/malaria/facts.aspx

National Pesticide Information Center - <http://npic.orst.edu/factsheets/DEETgen.pdf>

National Travel Health Network and Centre in the United Kingdom -
<http://www.nathnac.org/travel/factsheets/iba.htm#Avoid>

United States Center for Disease Control -
http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/qa/insect_repellent.htm

United States EPA - <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/chemicals/deet.htm>

About SC Johnson:

SC Johnson is a family-owned and managed business dedicated to innovative, high-quality products, excellence in the workplace and a long-term commitment to the environment and the communities in which it operates. Based in the USA, the company is one of the world's leading manufacturers of household cleaning products and products for home storage, air care, and insect control. It markets such well-known brands as GLADE®, OFF!®, PLEDGE®, RAID®, SCRUBBING BUBBLES®, SHOUT®, WINDEX® and ZIPLOC® in the U.S. and beyond, with brands marketed outside the U.S. including AUTAN®, BAYGON®, BRISE®, ECHO®, KABIKILLER®, KLEAR®, and MR. MUSCLE®. The 123-year old company, with more than \$8 billion in sales, employs approximately 12,000 people globally and sells products in more than 110 countries. www.scjohnson.com