

HANTAVIRUS PREVENTION AND SURFACE DISINFECTION USING DETERGENT CHLORINE TABLETS

Overview of Hantavirus

Hantavirus is a serious respiratory disease caused by a family of viruses carried primarily by wild rodents, including deer mice, white-footed mice, rice rats, and cotton rats. Recent international outbreaks have highlighted the risk of infection in high-traffic environments.

Transmission Risks

Humans act as "spillover" hosts. Infection typically occurs through:

- **Inhalation:** Breathing in airborne particles of dried rodent waste (urine, droppings, or saliva) disturbed during dry cleaning, such as sweeping or brushing.
- **Direct Contact:** Touching contaminated nesting materials or waste and then touching the mouth, nose, or eyes.
- **Ingestion:** Consuming food contaminated by rodent saliva or waste.
- **Bites:** Rare transmission via direct rodent bites.

High-Risk Regions include Asia, North America (specifically the Western US), South America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay) and most of Europe.

Effective Decontamination with Prosan Detergent Chlorine Tablets

Hantavirus is an enveloped virus. Because it relies on a lipid outer layer, it is highly susceptible to chlorine-based disinfectants.

Prosan Detergent Chlorine Tablets are tested against the "Enveloped Virus" category. To sanitise non-porous hard surfaces following a suspected outbreak:

1. **Preparation:** Add **two (2) tablets to 1 Litre of water** to achieve a concentration of **2,000 ppm** available chlorine.
2. **Application:** The contaminated area should be saturated with the Chlorine solution.
3. **Contact Time:** Leave the surface wet for a **minimum of 5 minutes** to ensure total inactivation.

Safety Protocols

- **Professional Intervention:** If a rodent infestation is suspected, we strongly recommend engaging professional Pest Control services.
- **PPE Requirements:** Never attempt to clean rodent waste without appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). At a minimum, HEPA-filter masks, gloves, and eye protection must be worn.
- **Methodology:** Avoid dry-cleaning methods (sweeping/vacuuming) that loft particles into the air. Always use wet-cleaning techniques with disinfectant.

Technical Guidelines and Resources

For further epidemiology and outbreak guidance, please visit the UK Government portal:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/andes-hantavirus-epidemiology-outbreaks-and-guidance>

***Legal disclaimer:** The above information is offered as a guide only and the operator should satisfy themselves as to the effectiveness of the above guidelines and the suitability for their application. The information is believed to be correct but does not purport to be all inclusive and shall be used only as a guide – no warranty or indemnity is implied.*