

**1**

**MYTH #1**  
All germs are the same

**THE TRUTH**  
There are two types of germs: **resident** and **transient**

**RESIDENT GERMS** are normal inhabitants of the skin.

**TRANSIENT GERMS**, which may cause illness, are picked up from touching items and objects in your environment.

Sick person spreads their germs

Healthy people pick up germs and get sick

**2**

**MYTH #2**  
PURELL® Hand Sanitizer kills all the good germs on hands

**THE TRUTH**  
PURELL Hand Sanitizer kills 99.99% of germs on the surface of your hands, however "good" germs remain deep within skin layers and quickly grow back.

**BEFORE**  
"Good" germs and illness-causing germs live on the surface of skin. "Good" germs also live deeper within the skin layers.

**AFTER**  
"Good" germs remain deep within skin layers and quickly grow back.

**3**

**MYTH #3**  
Using hand sanitizer creates antibiotic resistance or supergerms

**THE TRUTH**  
Alcohol-based hand sanitizers **DO NOT** cause antibiotic resistance or create supergerms

There is a lot of confusion and some emerging concerns around antibiotics and antibacterial products today.

These products are not the same.

Alcohol-based hand sanitizer ≠ Anti-bacterial soap ≠ Antibiotics

Alcohol-based hand sanitizer kills germs by **destroying germ cell walls instantly** and evaporates quickly so there's no chance for germs to become resistant.

Transient germs BEFORE

Seconds

Transient germs AFTER

**4**

**MYTH #4**  
Alcohol-based and non-alcohol-based products are the same

**THE TRUTH**  
Experts like **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**, **World Health Organization**, and **Health Canada** recommend alcohol-based hand sanitizers over any other type of hand sanitizer<sup>1</sup>

1. Refer to World Health Organization, [http://www.who.int/gpsc/tools/faqs/system\\_change/en/](http://www.who.int/gpsc/tools/faqs/system_change/en/); Health Canada, <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hl-vs/iyh-vsv/diseases-maladies/hands-mains-eng.php>; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/hygiene/hands/handwashing.html>

Questions? Contact: