

# Health Alert: Topic

## Plak-Vac Oral Care System Advisory

Health Alert  
October 21, 2011

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DIRECTOR**

**SUBJECT: Potential Contamination of Plak-Vac Oral Care System**

**October 21, 2011**

This document will be updated as new information becomes available. The current version can always be viewed at <http://www.health.mo.gov>

The Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS) is now using 4 types of documents to provide important information to medical and public health professionals, and to other interested persons:

**Health Alerts** convey information of the highest level of importance which warrants immediate action or attention from Missouri health providers, emergency responders, public health agencies, and/or the public.

**Health Advisories** provide important information for a specific incident or situation, including that impacting neighboring states; may not require immediate action.

**Health Guidances** contain comprehensive information pertaining to a particular disease or condition, and include recommendations, guidelines, etc. endorsed by DHSS.

**Health Updates** provide new or updated information on an incident or situation; can also provide information to update a previously sent Health Alert, Health Advisory, or Health Guidance; unlikely to require immediate action.

The Department of Health and Senior Services advises health care facilities to temporarily suspend the use of Plak-Vac Oral Care System. The product has been used by health care facilities for oral hygiene of patients on ventilators. One lot of this product was analyzed and found to be contaminated with *Burkholderia cepacia*. In addition to patients on ventilators, this organism is hazardous to those with chronic respiratory disease, cystic fibrosis or are otherwise immune compromised. The department is working with the Food and Drug Administration on the investigation and further details will be provided as they become available.

The product label is pictured below.



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