TRICLOSAN

also called... Cloxifenol; CH-3565; Lexol 300; Irgasan DP 300; trichloro-2'-hydroxydiphenyl ether; 2,4,4'-trichloro-2'-hydroxy-diphenyl ether; or 5-chloro-2-(2,4-dichlorophenoxy)phenol.

What is it?
Triclosan is an antibacterial and antifungal agent. It is present in many soaps. It is used as a preservative in many other products.

Where might it be found?
Bar soaps (e.g. Irish Spring, Lever 2000, Palmolive)
Liquid soaps (e.g. Softsoap, Dial, Palmolive, Phisoderm, CVS)
Detergents (e.g. Dawn Ultra)
Hand cleaners, sanitizers
Antibacterial hand soaps (e.g. softsoap, Yardley, Walgreens)
Face wash (e.g. Clearasil)
Face cream (e.g. Clarins)
Shave gel (e.g. Aveeno)
Aftershave
Moist cleansing wipes
Shampoos (organic contaminant)
Deodorant (e.g. Old Spice, Speed Stick, Right Guard, Gillette Power Stripe)
Body spray (e.g. Avon Naturals, Abercrombie, Murad)
Toothpaste (e.g. Mentadent, Colgate Total, Sensodyne, Crest Cavity Protection)
Mouthwash
Lipstick (e.g. Revlon Color Stay)
Deodorant foot powder
Foot spray
Dishwash liquids
Laundry products
Pet shampoos

Also may be found in:
Kitchen utensils
Cutting boards
Sponges
Trash bags
Towels
Toothbrushes
Shower curtains
Mattresses
Garments, fabrics
Bedding
Toys

How to avoid it:
To avoid triclosan check the complete ingredient list of each product you use. For products already at home that do not list ingredients, go to the store and inspect the original box or package. Some products’ ingredient lists are available on the internet at the manufacturer’s website, the store’s website, or at websites like http://householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov, http://www.cosmeticsdatabase.com, or http://www.drugstore.com.

Be suspicious of any product that is labeled “odor-fighting,” “antibacterial,” “fights germs,” “protection against mold,” or “keeps food fresher longer.”

To identify possible workplace exposure, check the complete ingredient list of each product you encounter.

Ask your hairdresser, barber, and other caretakers to avoid using products containing triclosan in your care. Wear protective rubber or vinyl gloves if you must come in contact with this agent in your care for others or pets.

NOTE: Persons allergic to triclosan may also react to other phenolic antibacterials, such as triclocarban, used in Dial bar soap. However, cloflucarban (Irgasan CF 3), in soaps like Safeguard, is NOT related.