

Why carry out this study?

- Since its first isolation in 2012, Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) has infected more than 1300 individuals in 26 countries, and caused more than 480 deaths.
- Following prior demonstration of rapid and effective virucidal activity of povidone iodine (PVP-I) products against another enveloped virus, Ebola, this study tested the *in-vitro* efficacy of three formulations of PVP-I against a surrogate reference virus as well as MERS-CoV itself.

What was learned from the study?

- Virucidal activity was demonstrated by each undiluted PVP-I product versus MVA and MERS-CoV, under both clean and dirty conditions, within 15 seconds of application.
- The findings suggest that PVP-I-based hand wash products and PVP-I gargle/mouthwash may help to support hygiene measures to prevent transmission of MERS-CoV.

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