



Pat Quinn, Governor

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TO: Local Health Department Administrators and Infectious Diseases Program Staff, Regional Offices of the Illinois Department of Public Health, Hospital Infection Control Professionals/Infection Preventionists, Infectious Disease Physicians, Long-Term Care Facilities, Long-Term Acute Care Hospitals

FROM: Judith A. Conway, RN, BS, CIC, Infection Control Coordinator  
Office of Health Protection – Communicable Disease Control Section

DATE: November 3, 2011

SUBJECT: Plak-Vac Oral Care System Recall

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Please be advised that Trademark Medical (St. Louis, MO) recently issued a voluntary recall of Plak-Vac Oral Care System kit numbers 2329, 2330-A, 2336, 2358, 2381, and 2460 because samples of the cetylpyridinium chloride (CPC) mouthwash in these kits were found to be contaminated with *Burkholderia cepacia* bacteria. *B. cepacia* typically poses little medical risk to healthy people. However, people who have certain health problems like weakened immune systems or chronic lung diseases, particularly cystic fibrosis, may be more susceptible to infection with *B. cepacia*. The effects of *B. cepacia* on people vary widely, ranging from no symptoms at all, to serious respiratory infections, especially in people with cystic fibrosis.

Trademark Medical notified customers on October 21, 2011, and asked that customers remove these Plak-Vac products from use. A recall notification letter from the company dated October 27, 2011, advises customers to contact Trademark Medical at 800-325-9044 with any questions regarding this situation. The company's recall notification letter is available at [http://www.trademarkmedical.com/docs/Plak-Vac Oral Care Kit Recall Notification Web Site Posting.pdf](http://www.trademarkmedical.com/docs/Plak-Vac%20Oral%20Care%20Kit%20Recall%20Notification%20Web%20Site%20Posting.pdf)

Healthcare facilities in Illinois who identify any *B. cepacia*-positive cultures in persons who used this product are asked to report to their local health department (or to Judith Conway if local health department is not available). Information to report includes: patient demographics, *B. cepacia*-related illness onset date, signs and symptoms, outcome, specimen collection date and type of specimen (e.g., blood, bronchoalveolar lavage, sputum), and Plak-Vac Oral Care System kit number(s). Local health departments, in turn, are asked to enter the case in I-NEDSS as an "Unusual Illness" case and report the case to Judith Conway, IDPH Communicable Disease Control Section (e-mail: [Judith.conway@illinois.gov](mailto:Judith.conway@illinois.gov) or telephone: 217/557-3472), who will report to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.