

# WHAT IS LEPTOSPIROSIS?

## & WHY IS IT DANGEROUS.

Leptospirosis (Weils disease) is the result of being infected with Leptospiro. Leptospiro is a pathogenic bacterium that is found in rat urine. Though relatively uncommon it is becoming more widespread with the explosion in the rat population. Rats are notoriously talented at getting into places that we also have to inhabit on occasion. Unfortunately they urinate as they scurry along, so contamination can be over a fairly large area. Rat urine can excrete fully live virulent organisms that contaminate the environment outside of their own bodies. These organisms can survive up to 14 days in stagnant water or wet soil. Infection can take place if direct contact is made with the urine, water or soil that has been contaminated or very rarely with food or water that has been affected.

Leptospiro can have many symptoms and can cause a very wide variety of infectious diseases. These include, meningitis, hepatitis, nephritis & jaundice. Leptospirosis pathogens can enter the body via the nose, eyes, or mouth. The most common entry point is through cuts and abrasions. The incubation period can be up to 3 weeks and will mostly give severe flu-like symptoms. The mortality rate can be as high as 30%.

There are many strains of Leptospiro and because of this, there are no vaccines available as yet. Therefore, the need for protection is very great indeed. High-risk workers should use only disinfectants and hand cleaners that state clearly they are effective against leptospirosis. High-risk workers that have to be protected, include:

Water authority workers in sewerage treatment plants.  
Sewerage pipeline workers.  
Gas, telephone, electricity, underground cable or pipe layers.  
Miners  
Farmers & animal feeding area staff.  
Fire brigade  
Rescue services  
Army  
Refuse collectors  
Park wardens  
Dog wardens  
Animal care or sanctuary workers  
Open-air swimming pool attendants.

Also at risk are people who use waterways, rivers, ponds, canals etc for work or pleasure. Please note; cats, dogs, rabbits and cattle can also carry the Leptospirosis bacteria if they get infected.

Eco san disinfectant will kill Weil's disease immediately on contact if used neat. or in 5 minutes if diluted 10-1.

Hand clinic will kill Weil's disease on contact with the skin immediately. Do not rinse off.