

# Colgate Total<sup>®</sup> and Triclosan Safety: What Leading Authorities Have Said

*Colgate Total<sup>®</sup> is the most extensively tested and reviewed toothpaste in the world.*

*The safety of Colgate Total<sup>®</sup> has been reviewed by the U.S. FDA and authorities charged with protecting human health in Europe, Canada and Australia, all of which have approved triclosan as a safe ingredient in Colgate Total<sup>®</sup>. The American Dental Association has also recently reaffirmed its Seal-approved endorsement.*

## U.S. Food and Drug Administration

“We have completed the review of this application [for Colgate Total<sup>®</sup>], including the submitted draft labeling, and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to demonstrate that the drug **product is safe and effective for use as recommended** in the enclosed revised draft labeling. Accordingly, the application is **approved effective** on the date of this letter.” 1997

“**Triclosan is not currently known to be hazardous to humans**...FDA is engaged in an ongoing scientific and regulatory review of this ingredient...FDA does not have sufficient safety evidence to recommend changing consumer use of products that contain triclosan at this time.” 2010 & 2013

“For some consumer products, there is **clear evidence that triclosan provides a benefit**. In 1997, FDA reviewed extensive effectiveness data on triclosan in Colgate Total toothpaste. The evidence showed that triclosan in this product was **effective in preventing gingivitis**.” 2013

## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

“The Agency determined that...triclosan **met the statutory safety standard**.” 2014

## Government of Canada

“**Triclosan does not pose a health risk** to most Canadians, **including children, pregnant women, and seniors**. The levels of triclosan to which we are exposed are considered too low to be harmful.” 2013

## European Commission, Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety

According to the **European Commission Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety**: “The use of triclosan at a maximum concentration of 0.3% in toothpastes...**is considered safe.**” 2009

## Australian Department of Health

“The assessment found **no concern for the public in general**...There is **no evidence of any potential harm to breastfed babies** from the amount of triclosan detected in breast milk, and breastfeeding is recommended in accordance with Australian Dietary Guidelines. The NICNAS assessment did not find convincing evidence that triclosan poses a risk to humans by inducing or transmitting antibacterial resistance.” 2013

## Cosmetic Ingredient Review Expert Panel

“The CIR Expert Panel concluded that **triclosan is safe for use** in cosmetics in the practices of use and concentration described in this safety assessment.” 2010

## American Dental Association

“There is no clinically relevant scientific evidence indicating that the Seal should be removed from the Colgate Total product.” 2014