It was found that this problem is solved according to the invention by using fatty acid ester of monovalent C_1 to C_6 alkyl alcohol. Thus, according to the invention it was found, surprisingly, that addition of a fatty acid ester as refatting agent to an alcoholic disinfectant leads, with increasing concentration, even to an improvement in efficacy in the quantitative suspension test according to DGHM, in contrast to addition of glycerin as refatting agent.

The invention therefore relates, in a first aspect, to an alcoholic disinfectant that comprises

a) at least 79.5 to 95 wt% ethanol, relative to the weight of the disinfectant, and
b) 0.3 to 2.0 wt% of isopropyl myristate;

with the disinfectant comprising

i. less than 0.1 wt% glycerin, relative to the weight of the disinfectant, and
ii. less than 5.0 wt% perfume, relative to the weight of the disinfectant.

The disinfectant according to the invention thus comprises less than 0.1 wt% glycerin, preferably less than 0.05 wt%, especially less than 0.03 wt%, for example less than 0.01 wt% glycerin, in each case relative to the weight of the disinfectant.

In another aspect of the disclosure, there is provided the use of isopropyl myristate for improving the antimicrobial efficacy of an alcoholic disinfectant wherein the alcoholic disinfectant comprises 81 to 93 wt% ethanol and from 0.02 to 5 wt% of isopropyl myristate, from 0.02 to

5 wt.% of myristyl alcohol; and less than 0.1 wt% glycerin relative to the weight of the disinfectant.

a) Ethanol

The alcoholic disinfectant according to the invention contains at least 78 wt% ethanol, preferably at least 78.5 wt%, preferably at most 98 wt%, more preferably at most 97 wt%, such as 79.0 to 96 wt%, especially 79.5 to 95 wt%, such as 80

Patent claims

1. Use of isopropyl myristate for improving the antimicrobial efficacy of an alcoholic disinfectant, wherein the alcoholic disinfectant comprises 81 to 93 wt% ethanol, from 0.02 to 5 wt% of isopropyl myristate, from 0.02 to 5 wt.% of myristyl alcohol; and less than 0.1 wt% glycerin relative to the weight of the disinfectant.

2. Use according to Claim 1, characterized in that the improved antimicrobial efficacy is an improvement in the quantitative suspension test according to DGHM, Method 9, Gebel et al., i.e. Standard methods of the DGHM for testing chemical methods of disinfection, mhp Verlag GmbH, as at 1 September 2001, determined at a concentration of 35% v/v of the disinfectant in the test which is measured by diluting with water of standardized hardness to a concentration of 43.75% v/v , under dirty conditions, *Escherichia coli* K12 ATCC 10538, with time of action of 30 s, 60 s, 90 s or 120 s.

3. Use according to claim 2, characterized in that the time of action in the quantitative suspension test is 60s.

4. Use according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the alcoholic disinfectant

   i. comprises less than 5.0 wt% perfume, relative to the weight of the alcoholic disinfectant.

5. Use according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the alcoholic disinfectant comprises less than 0.05 wt% glycerin, relative to the weight of the alcoholic disinfectant.

6. Use according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the alcoholic disinfectant comprises from 0.02 to 5 wt% *isopropyl myristate*, relative to the weight of the disinfectant.

7. Use according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the alcoholic disinfectant comprises from 0.1 to 4 wt% *isopropyl myristate*, relative to the weight of the disinfectant.

8. Use according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the alcoholic disinfectant comprises from 0.5 to 1.8 wt% *isopropyl myristate*, relative to the weight of the disinfectant.

9. Use according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the alcoholic disinfectant comprises less than 1.0 wt% of

water-insoluble polymeric amines, relative to the weight of the alcoholic disinfectant.

10. Use according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the alcoholic disinfectant is free from water-insoluble polymeric amines.

11. Use according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the alcoholic disinfectant comprises less than 1.0 wt% of amino-substituted polystyrenes, relative to the weight of the alcoholic disinfectant.

12. Use according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the alcoholic disinfectant is free from amino-substituted polystyrenes.

13. Use according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the alcoholic disinfectant comprises less than 10 wt% of C3 alcohol, relative to the weight of the alcoholic disinfectant.

14. Use according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the alcoholic disinfectant comprises less than 9.0 wt% of C3 alcohol, relative to the weight of the alcoholic disinfectant.

15. Use according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the alcoholic disinfectant is an aqueous-alcoholic gel.

16. Use according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the alcoholic disinfectant further comprises
    c) 0.5 to 1.5 wt% myristyl alcohol and/or
    d) 0.4 to 1.0 wt% diol and/or
    e) 0.05 to 0.15 wt% bispyridinium alkane and/or

f) 0.3 to 1.0 wt% chlorhexidine derivative and/or
g) 0.05 to 0.3 wt% glycerin ether and/or
h) 0.3 to 1.0 wt% fatty acid fatty alcohol ester and/or
i) 0.4 to 1.0 wt% polyvinylpyrrolidone and/or
j) 0.3 to 1.0 wt% sugar alcohol and/or
k) 0.005 to 0.03 wt% of antioxidant and/or
l) 0.05 to 0.3 wt% of skin care agent.

17. Use according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the alcoholic disinfectant is a disinfectant for hygienic and for surgical disinfection of hands.