



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Health and Ageing**  
**NICNAS**

## **SECOND UPDATE ON THE ASSESSMENT OF THE PRIORITY EXISTING CHEMICAL TRICLOSAN**

As stated in the declaration notice for triclosan published in the May 2003 Chemical Gazette, the 2002 EU review of antimicrobial resistance following the use of triclosan would be referred to in the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) Priority Existing Chemical (PEC) review of triclosan. The EU review found that antimicrobial resistance to triclosan was not to be of concern under current conditions of use. However, as NICNAS has identified a number of studies on this issue published in scientific journals from 2002 that are not included in the EU review, a national expert on antimicrobial resistance has been commissioned to evaluate these recent studies.

These more recent studies will supplement the EU review leading to an updated assessment of antimicrobial resistance to triclosan, as the NICNAS PEC review will be based on data available up to the beginning of December 2005. The project will be completed by February 2006.

The declaration notice for triclosan can be accessed at  
[http://www.nicnas.gov.au/publications/Chemical\\_Gazette/pdf/2003may\\_whole.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/publications/Chemical_Gazette/pdf/2003may_whole.pdf)