

**Table 1. Marking Experiences Listed by Markers**

In July 2009, the Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority distributed a survey, through patient safety officers, for operating room (OR) managers in Pennsylvania hospitals and ambulatory surgical facilities to share their experiences with using various marking pens with various skin preparation agents. OR managers were asked to report the visibility of their markers with their various skin preparations and to relay any complaints from patients. The Authority received 106 responses of facility experiences. The following table lists experiences according to markers. (Although respondents were not asked to list multiple products, some did; hence, the number of evaluations exceeded the actual number of survey responses.) Experiences are reported for visibility of the mark after skin preparation and for patient complaints about the marks.

MARKER	PREP	VISIBILITY AFTER PREP				PATIENT COMPLAINTS		
		ALWAYS VISIBLE	USUALLY VISIBLE	SOMETIMES VISIBLE	USUALLY WASHED OFF	NEVER	OCCASIONALLY	FREQUENTLY
Accu-line Products, Inc.	Chloraprep		1				1	
	Duraprep	2	1				3	
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)		1				1	
Aspen Surgical Products	Chloraprep	2	1			1	1	
	Duraprep	1						
	Hibiclens		1			1		
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)	2	1	1	1	2	2	
Ballpoint pen	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)			1			1	
Cardinal Health	Chloraprep	3				1		
	Duraprep	4				1		
	Hibiclens	4				1		
	Phisohex	1				1		
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)	5	2			3	1	
	Technicare	2						
Corporate Express EXP 50098 water-based, blue fine-tip marker	Chloraprep				1	1		
	Duraprep	1					1	
	Hibiclens				1	1		
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)				1	1		
Covidien (Kendall) Devon	Chloraprep	3	4	2	1	4	5	
	Duraprep	4	4		1	5	3	
	Hibiclens	3	2			1	3	
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)	7	10			10	6	
	Technicare	3					1	1
DeRoyal	Chloraprep	1				1		
	Duraprep	1				1		
	Hibiclens			1		1		
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)	2				1	1	

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MARKER	PREP	VISIBILITY AFTER PREP				PATIENT COMPLAINTS		
		ALWAYS VISIBLE	USUALLY VISIBLE	SOMETIMES VISIBLE	USUALLY WASHED OFF	NEVER	OCCASIONALLY	FREQUENTLY
DuraMark Pre-op marker	Hibiclens		1			1		
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)		1			1		
Hospital Marketing Services Skin Scribe	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)	1				1		
MarketLab — Mini-Mark ML5819	Chloraprep	1				1		
	Duraprep	1				1		
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)	2				2		
McKesson Medipak Performance Plus	Chloraprep		1					
	Duraprep		1					
	Hibiclens		1					
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)	2	1				2	
McKesson, exact product unknown	Chloraprep	1					1	
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)	2	1			1	2	
Medical Action Industries, Inc.	Chloraprep		1			1		
	Duraprep	1	1			1	1	
	Hibiclens	1	1			1	1	
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)	1	2			1	2	
Medicochoice skin marking pen	Hibiclens	1	1			2		
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)	1	1			2		
Medline	Chloraprep	1	1		1	2	1	
	Duraprep	2			1	2	1	
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)	3				2	1	
Op-marks mini-marker	Chloraprep	1				1		
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)	1					1	
Sandel Surgical Marker	Chloraprep	1				1		
	Duraprep			1		1		
Secureline	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)		1				1	
Sharpie	Chloraprep	1	1		1	3		
	Hibiclens	1		1			1	1
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)	2		1		2		
	Technicare		1			1		

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		ALWAYS VISIBLE	USUALLY VISIBLE	SOMETIMES VISIBLE	USUALLY WASHED OFF	NEVER	OCCASIONALLY	FREQUENTLY
SurgiMate standard tip skin marker	Chloraprep		1			1		
	Duraprep		1			1		
	Hibiclens		1			1		
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)		1			1		
Viscot Medical Precision Surgical Skin Marker								
Viscot Medical Removable Ink Skin Marker	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)		1			1		
Viscot Medical Scrub-Resistant Surgical Skin Marker	Chloraprep	1				1		
	Duraprep	1	2	1		3	1	
	Hibiclens	3	1			4		
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)*	3	3	1		5	2	
	Technicare		1			1		
Viscot Medical, exact product unknown	Chloraprep	1			1	1		
	Hibiclens	1				1		
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)	2	1		1	3	1	
Xodus Skin Marker	Chloraprep		1	1	1	2	1	
	Duraprep	1	1			2		
	Hibiclens	1				1		
	Povidone-iodine (e.g., Betadine)	3	1	1		3	2	

\* One comment that ink needs adequate time to dry.

More information is available online at <http://www.patientsafetyauthority.org>.

This table accompanies  
 Improvement in preventing wrong-site surgery! Traction or transient?  
 Pa Patient Saf Advis [online] 2009 Sep [cited 2009 Sep 16].  
 Available from Internet:

[http://www.patientsafetyauthority.org/ADVISORIES/AdvisoryLibrary/2009/Sep6\(3\)/Pages/104.aspx](http://www.patientsafetyauthority.org/ADVISORIES/AdvisoryLibrary/2009/Sep6(3)/Pages/104.aspx).