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## WHAT ARE THE DANGERS OF DISHWASHING DETERGENTS

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**Relevance.** Have you ever wondered how the chemicals in your dishwashing detergent can scrape off the nastiest grime without any scrubbing? Most of the means for washing dishes contain special ingredients, but some of them can be harmful to the human health and environment.

These chemical compounds are extremely difficult to wash off from the dish surface: one plate must be washed at least 15 times, completely immersing in clean water.

There are dissolved surfactants in the water droplets on the dishes. After drying these substances still remain forming a film on the surface. When we put food on this dish, the surfactants join the food and are safely eaten. There is a statement that during a year a person consumes half a liter of liquid for washing dishes!

Surfactants cause gradual poisoning. It all starts with allergic reactions and may result in the development of tumors in the gastrointestinal tract. The fact is that the surfactant decay products are carcinogens.

Domestic wastewater with dissolved surfactants causes great damage to the environment. While the compounds decompose, they contribute to waterlogging, their inhabitants oxygen starvation, and subsequently to their death.

**Aim:** to identify the dishwashing detergents harmful effects on the human health and environment; to analyze the BSMU students awareness about the rules of dishwashing detergents use.

**Materials and methods.** Verbal-communicative methods (questionnaires and the analytical study results), relevant literature, media and Internet sources analysis, generalization.

**Results.** According to the questionnaire data 78% of the respondents are aware about possible harmful effects of the dishwashing detergents. 96% of the students use the dishwashing detergents. 21% of them consider effectiveness (has good cleaning properties) to be the main criterion when choosing a dishwashing detergent, 18% of the interviewed - economy (it is possible to wash a large number of dishes), 16% of the questioned - safety (does not have a harmful effect on the human body), but 45% of people prefers price.

The answer to the question "Are you sure that you wash the dishes well with the detergent using?" was positive in 68% of the cases. 23% of the students did not think about this question, the rest answered "no".

**Conclusions.** Thus, the majority of the BSMU interviewed students are aware of the dishwashing detergents dangers, but not all information is used for protection from their adverse effect.