



Australian Federation
of Islamic Councils

In the fight against COVID, Shariah encourages external use of hand sanitiser

Media Statement

18 September 2020

This week, Professor Brett Sutton raised the issue of unidentified religious adherents being unwilling to use hand sanitiser because “it is against their religion”.

This statement is of concern to us and we wish to make sure that members of our community have a proper understanding of the Shariah position on hand sanitiser.

There are verses in the Holy Qur’an and authentic Ahadith of our beloved prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings upon him, clearly prohibiting the ingestion of intoxicants.

Hand sanitiser has a very high content of synthetic alcohol and is not ingestible. It is for external use only.

“Since the outbreak of COVID 19, our mosques have placed hand sanitiser in convenient locations at the entrances to the mosques to allow worshippers to practice proper hygiene and minimise any risk of contracting harmful bacteria, microbes or viruses.” Said Dr. Rateb Jneid, president AFIC.

There are numerous Fatwas (religious rulings) from very senior Islamic scholars around the world outlining that hand sanitiser is not “Najas” (impure) and therefore encouraging its use for proper hygiene and to prevent the spread of disease.

Authorised by:

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