



Phthalates<sup>i</sup> are commonly used in medical devices as softeners in PVC plastics. There are concerns, however, that phthalates may in some cases pose adverse risks to human health and the environment, both individually and through cumulative exposure from their presence in multiple everyday use products. Coloplast recognizes these concerns and we therefore choose to proactively and continuously limit the use of phthalates in our products. We are especially cautious regarding the use of phthalates in products designed for people who are particularly sensitive to their effects; e.g. children and pregnant or breast-feeding women.

Phthalates are now found only in some of Coloplast's older Continence Care products, and we intend to continue limiting their use:

- We do not use phthalates in any new products.
- We highly prioritize to substitute phthalates when we modify existing products.
- We will continuously reduce the number of items in our existing product portfolio containing phthalates.
- We set targets for reducing the amount of phthalates used in Coloplast products.
- We strive to offer phthalate-free alternatives to all product families containing phthalates.

Coloplast also proactively shares our knowledge regarding the use and reduction of phthalates in medical devices and we clearly inform our customers regarding the content of phthalates in our products. We also regularly report on our progress in limiting the use of phthalates.

Coloplast welcomes and supports an international ban against the use of phthalates in medical devices.

## **Reduction Target:**

Every second urine bag sold is phthalate free before 1th of October 2014.

Furthermore, our consumption of phthalates compared to the continence care revenue is to decrease by 30% per 1th of October 2014 with 2009/10 as base year.

March 2013

Lene Skole

**Executive Vice President** 

Phthalates defined as esters of ortho-phthalic acid