

# The West Australian

## Skin Elements shares soar on new alcohol-free hand sanitiser option



Kate Purnell | The West Australian



**Production has been accelerated to meet increased demand for hand sanitisers, particularly alcohol-free alternatives for those with skin sensitivities. Credit: Supplied**

Shares in Perth-based Skin Elements almost doubled yesterday after the natural skin care products maker revealed it was launching an alcohol-free hand sanitiser.

Invisi Shield, produced in collaboration with fellow ASX-listed Holista Colltech, is set to hit shelves across Australia and New Zealand later this month.

The companies said production had been accelerated to meet increased demand for hand sanitisers, particularly alcohol-free alternatives for those with skin sensitivities.

Invisi Shield is made from organic plant extracts including olive leaf, echinacea, Manuka honey, Kakadu plum, chamomile and thyme. The key ingredient is Path-Away, a US-made broad spectrum anti-microbial compound.

Skin Elements executive chairman Peter Malone said Invisi Shield would position the company as a global leader in hand sanitisers.

Based on the World Health Organisation's advice to fight the coronavirus, the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration will only regulate hand sanitisers that contain at least 80 per cent ethanol or 75 per cent isopropyl alcohol.

The Centres for Disease Control and Protection in the US recommends hand sanitisers should contain no less than 60 per cent alcohol to be effective against COVID-19.

"Life after COVID-19 will see more use of sanitisers at a personal level and I am happy to see two Australian companies take the message of 'all natural' and 'alcohol-free' to the world as an alternative to alcohol," Holista Colltech's chief executive Rajen Manicka said.

Shares in Skin Elements closed up 89.5 per cent at 3.6¢ while Holista Colltech finished up 14.3 per cent at 12¢.