ANTIBACTERIAL SOAP NO BETTER THAN NORMAL SOAP
Soap which contains antibacterial triclosan may be no better than ordinary soap. Several studies have previously suggested this, but a study this week comparing soap with 0.3% triclosan to soap without found no difference in the short-term bactericidal effects.

ESTERS DISTINGUISH HUMAN AND ANIMAL REMAINS
New research on the compounds given off by decomposing remains shows that eight compounds distinguish remains of humans and pigs from other animals, and five esters separate pigs and humans. The research could help police train dogs to detect human remains.

SOFT DRINK ADDITIVES COULD HELP PROTECT TEETH
Researchers examined how additives such as chitosan can help prevent the erosion of hydroxyapatite, which is a major component of tooth enamel, by interacting with the saliva coatings on tooth surfaces. It could lead to better additives to protect teeth.

SELF-HEALING RUBBER FOR CAR TYRES CREATED
Using a process that avoids vulcanisation, a step car tyres usually require, researchers have produced durable tyres that are capable of self-repairing cuts and damage at room temperature. They were still capable of withstanding normal driving pressure after healing.

BREATH SENSOR HELPS DETECT OVARIAN CANCER
A gold nanoparticle-layered flexible film can be used as a breath sensor to detect ovarian cancer. The breath of those suffering from the cancer contains a distinctive mix of several organic compounds which the device detects. In tests, it had an accuracy of 80%.