

# Some face creams can poison children



“My nephew was sick. At the doctor, tests showed his mercury level was high. My sister was using a face cream to get rid of dark spots. She didn’t know it had mercury in it. Her son was poisoned because she was holding him after putting the cream on her face.”

– Adeela

Mercury is a poison. You can spread it from your hands all over your home. It gets into people’s bodies. It is especially bad for children and pregnant women. **The creams shown on the next page have mercury in them.**

## Do not use:

- The creams on the next page
- Any face cream from outside the U.S. that says it is used for “whitening” or “lightening” or to get rid of wrinkles, age spots, freckles, acne, or other blemishes
- Any cream on this web page: [bit.ly/TestedCreams4Mercury](http://bit.ly/TestedCreams4Mercury)
- Any face cream purchased from the internet, an individual, a flea market or swap meet, or a specialty store selling products from South Asia, since someone could have added mercury before selling them in these places. Only buy face creams from well-known, chain stores like Walgreens or Target
- Creams in containers without labels or with homemade labels

## If you use creams like the ones shown on the next page:



**STOP** using the creams



**VISIT** your doctor and bring this leaflet and



**Get a blood and urine TEST for mercury**

For free medical advice, call Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222

If you have a cream shown on the next page, put it in a sealed bag and contact (510) 981-4354 or [AskEHIB@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:AskEHIB@cdph.ca.gov)



# Beware! These Creams Have Mercury in Them: Do Not Use!

These creams were found on the internet, or purchased from an individual, a flea market or swap meet, or a specialty store selling products from South Asia. Only buy face creams from well-known, chain stores.

## Creams with Mercury—Beauty Creams from Other Countries



## Creams with Mercury—No Label or Homemade Label



California Department of Public Health  
Environmental Health Investigations Branch, Healthy Homes and Communities Project