

Some face creams can poison people



“My neighbor was using a Mexican face cream to remove dark spots. She didn’t know it had mercury in it. Because she held her son a lot, he was poisoned. He spent two weeks in the hospital.”

- Maria R.

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 on the next page have mercury in them. They are used to lighten age spots and get rid of wrinkles, freckles, acne, or other blemishes.

Do not use creams:

- With Spanish labels only (English and Spanish on labels—or stickers—is safer)
- In containers without labels or with homemade labels
- That are on this list: <https://tinyurl.com/yy7qgg7s>.

This is an example of a cream that does not have mercury in it. It had a safety seal when it was purchased at a large, chain store in California. The label is in English and Spanish, not Spanish only. The cream was made in Mexico.



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



STOP using the creams



VISIT your doctor and bring this leaflet and your creams



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

For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/MercuryinCream>

Do Not Use! These Creams Have Mercury in Them

Creams With Labels Only in Spanish



Well-Known Creams Sold Without a Safety Seal

When sold by an individual or at a swap meet, someone may have opened the cream and added mercury



Creams With No Label or Homemade Label



These creams were found in small stores or swap meets or were sold by individuals or on the internet. Buy creams used to lighten age spots and get rid of wrinkles, freckles, acne, or other blemishes from bigger, well-known chain stores.