

**Focus on...**

## Mercury in Skin-Lightening Creams

Fact sheets in multiple languages are now available on mercury in skin-lightening creams and how to choose a safer product. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) created the consumer fact sheets after an investigation found dangerous levels of mercury in several skin-lightening creams from San Francisco Bay Area stores.

The effort to find out if hazardous products are sold in California was a collaboration between multiple CDPH programs, including the [California Safe Cosmetics Program](#), the Environmental Health Investigations Branch, the Food and Drug

Laboratory Branch, and the Food and Drug Branch.



The California Safe Cosmetics Program collects information on cosmetics products sold in California that contain toxic ingredients and makes this information available to affected workers and the public.

[CDPH issues warning on dangerous skin-lightening creams](#) ... [Chinese](#) ... [Spanish](#) ... [Tagalog](#) ... [Vietnamese](#)

---

### Resources

[CDPH issues warning on dangerous skin-lightening creams](#) ...  
[Chinese](#) ... [Spanish](#) ... [Tagalog](#) ... [Vietnamese](#)  
[Mercury in Skin Creams](#) - CDPH  
[Mercury Poisoning Linked to Skin Products](#) - FDA  
[California Safe Cosmetics Program](#)

[OHB](#) improves California worker health and safety through prevention activities. We gather information on job hazards, test new approaches to prevent worker injury and illness, and help make changes at the workplace.

Email [OHW@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:OHW@cdph.ca.gov) with feedback about this update or change of address.

