

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER SAFETY (SCCS)

Request for a scientific opinion: 2-chloroacetamide CAS 79-07-2, EC 201-174-2

1. Background

2-Chloroacetamide with the CAS No 79-07-2 and the EC No 201-174-2 is currently authorized as a preservative in Annex VI entry 41 of the Cosmetics Directive (76/768/EEC) in a concentration up to 0.3%.

The first scientific opinion on 2-Chloroacetamide was delivered on July 1986 and the second scientific opinion by the scientific committee on cosmetology was delivered on the 13 October 1987 with the following conclusion:

"Chloroacetamide has shown considerable sensitizing potency in humans at concentrations in the range of those present in cosmetics. This property might be due to a contaminant in certain batches of the substance. The Committee agrees with provisional acceptance if information is provided on the results of ongoing surveillance."

2-Chloroacetamide is classified as a CMR substance, toxic to reproduction category 3.

After a public call for scientific data the current submission has been compiled.

2. Terms of reference

1. On the basis of the provided data the SCCS is asked to assess the risk to consumers when 2-chloroacetamide is used in cosmetic products under the current use conditions of 0.3% in cosmetic products?

2. Does the SCCS have any further scientific concern with regard to its use in cosmetic products?