



# Scientific Committee on Consumer Products (SCCP)

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Risk Assessment and the EC Scientific Committees -  
Information Session for Stakeholders

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# Mandate of the SCCP

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- Evaluation of substances included in Cosmetics Directive
  - annex 2 – prohibited
  - annex 3 – restricted
  - annex 6 – preservatives
  - annex 7 – UV filters
- Other substances/exposures of concern
- Position papers



# Functioning of the SCCP

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- Committee
  - toxicology
    - general, genetic, cancer, endocrine
  - medicine
    - dermatology, allergy, environmental, pharmaceutical
  - chemistry
  - epidemiology, photobiology, physics
- Specific working groups
  - fragrances, preservatives, UV filters, hair dyes, guidelines, ad hoc
- Information
  - industry dossiers, independent, external



# Examples of recent issues considered by SCCP

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- Sunbeds and effects on health
- Cancer hazard and hair dyes
- Nanotechnology and cosmetic ingredients
- Tooth whitening products
- Systemic safety:
  - hair dyes, UV filters, preservatives
- Guidelines for safety evaluation of ingredients
- Cutaneous allergy:
  - fragrances, preservatives, hair dyes



# Sunbeds for cosmetic purposes

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- Likely to increase the risk of malignant melanoma.
- People with known risk factors for skin cancer, should not use them.
- Should not be used by individuals under the age of 18 years.



# Hair Dyes

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## Cancer risk? Safe? Allergy

- Some studies indicate excess risks for certain types of leukaemia.
- Exhaustive review of systemic safety of ALL hair dyes for use in EU → positive list.
- Many of currently used hair dye substances are skin sensitisers; this may be of concern for the health of consumers.



# Nanomaterials in Cosmetics

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Royal Society & the Royal Academy of Engineering

- labile - disintegrate on application
  - conventional risk assessment based on mass metrics adequate
- insoluble particles
  - other metrics – number, surface area, distribution
  - if systemically available, translocation/ transportation and accumulation in secondary organs may occur
  - *in vitro* studies for hazard identification; *in vivo* for risk assessment



# Interactions with stakeholders - worked well

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- In general, industry exchanges useful
  - dermal absorption
  - genotoxicity
  - hair dye chemistry
  - parabens safety
  - titanium dioxide
- Public consultations ✓





# Interactions with stakeholders – not worked well

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- Not the norm
  - Tooth whitening
    - 'PR' rather than science
  - Alpha hydroxy acids
    - Unwillingness to provide data; quality poor
  - Evaluation of confidential dossier
    - Lack of transparency and necessary dialogue
- Commercial interests → conflict



# Interactions with stakeholders - the way forward

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- Strict criteria for meetings
- For information not procrastination
- 'Notes of Guidance'



## Comments - SCCP

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- Pivotal role for risk assessment of cosmetic ingredients as required by Cosmetics Directive / other consumer exposures.
- Position statements of matters of additional concern.
- Prohibition of *in vivo* studies will compromise 'adequate' risk assessments.

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