

Some face creams can poison people

Mercury is a dangerous chemical. 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.



“My neighbor was using a face cream to lighten some 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.”

- Community member

Do not use:

- Any face creams made outside the USA or Canada that are used for whitening, lightening or getting rid of wrinkles, age spots, freckles, acne or other blemishes
- Any creams for lightening bought from individuals, online markets, swap meets or flea markets, or specialty stores selling products from other countries
- Any cream on this [CDPH list](https://bit.ly/TestedCreams4Mercury) of creams with mercury in them (<https://bit.ly/TestedCreams4Mercury>)
- Creams in containers without labels or with homemade labels

If you are using a cream from the list or like one on the next page:



STOP using the creams



VISIT your doctor and bring this fact sheet



Get a 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 plastic bag and contact **(510) 334-8567** or AskEHIB@cdph.ca.gov

For more information visit the [CDPH website](http://bit.ly/MercuryinCream) (<http://bit.ly/MercuryinCream>)



Beware! Do not use!

These Creams Have Mercury in Them

These creams were found on the internet, or purchased from an individual, a flea market or swap meet, or a specialty store selling international products.

1. Creams with no label or a homemade label



2. Creams for lightening skin made outside the USA or Canada



3. Creams that have been bought, tainted with mercury, and then sold again by an individual in person or online.



California Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Investigations Branch
For more information, visit the [CDPH website](http://bit.ly/MercuryinCream) (<http://bit.ly/MercuryinCream>)

