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DETERMINATION OF CADMIUM POISONING IN SKIN WHITENING CREAMS

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ABSTRACT

This article is based on an examination of different studies conducted across the globe on the topic of heavy metal impurities in skin-whitening or lightening treatments. Cadmium (Cd) was chosen as the heavy metal for this study since it is one of the most frequently detected contaminants in a variety of cosmetic products, yet studies on Cd alone are scarce. The acid-digestion procedure is utilized to prepare samples in the majority of tests. Atomic Absorption Spectrometry (AAS) is the most frequently utilized confirmatory method, with the exception of one study that employed inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectrometry (AES). The difference between AAS and AES is that AAS measures electromagnetic radiation absorption whereas AES tests radiation output. In this study, the World Health Organization (WHO) detection cap or their own nation regulation is utilized as a reference. According to studies, the use of some cosmetic ingredients exposes consumers to tiny quantities of dangerous heavy metals, which may create health issues if they remain in biological processes over time. It was also found that, although the usage of heavy metals in some brands is below the legal limit, they nevertheless represent a considerable risk to people. Both of these tests are being performed in order to identify which brands of cosmetics sold in our sector are in violation of the regulations and to bring this to the notice of the authorities.

KEYWORDS: Cadmium, Concentrations, Cosmetics, Heavy Metals, Lightening Creams, Products, Samples, Skin, Whitening.

INTRODUCTION

Poisoning is a sickness or process in which a living creature is intentionally harmed or affected by a toxic substance or animal venom. Acute poisoning occurs when a toxic substance is introduced in a single event or over a brief period of time. Chronic Poisoning is a repeated or continuous exposure to a toxic substance in which symptoms do not develop immediately or after each presentation. Poisoning symptoms may resemble a number of diseases, including seizures, inebriation, stroke, and insulin response. Poisoning symptoms and adverse effects may include[1].

- Burns or redness around the mouth and lips
- Breath that smells like synthetic chemicals, for example, gas or acetone
- Vomiting
- Difficulty in breathing
- Sleepiness
- Confusion or other altered mental status

The term "heavy metal" refers to any metallic material product with a high thickness that is dangerous or toxic at low quantities. Heavy metals are widespread on the planet's surface. They can't be contaminated or destroyed. They join our bodies in tiny quantities via eating, drinking water, and breathing. Some heavy metals (such as copper, selenium, and zinc) are needed for human digestion to operate correctly. Nonetheless, in greater quantities, they may cause harm. Mercury (Hg), cadmium (Cd), arsenic (As), chromium (Cr), thallium (Tl), and lead are examples of heavy metals (Pb). Heavy metals are hazardous because they seem to build up in the body. Bioaccumulation refers to the expansion of a substance's convergence in a natural living form through time, as opposed to the compound's fixing in the soil. When living things are taken up and put away quicker than they are isolated (used) or discharged, mixes develop. Cadmium is a silvery white metal buried in the crust of the planet. It is isolated during the manufacture of metals such as copper, silver, and zinc, for example. Cadmium is found in some foods and is disseminated through the usage of petroleum derivatives such as coal and gasoline, smoking tobacco, and eating trash. Batteries, make coatings, and metal coatings all utilize it[2].

Cadmium is categorized as a human cancer producing agent because of its detrimental effects on the renal, skeletal, and respiratory systems. It is typically found in the earth's crust in low quantities. Whatever the situation may be, human migration has significantly increased such quantities. Cadmium can travel a great distance via air from the source of discharge. It rapidly accumulates in a number of living types, including mollusks and scavengers. Vegetables, peas, and drab roots have lower concentrations. Human presentation is mainly induced via the consumption of contaminated food, the active and passive breathing of cigarette smoke, and the inhalation of nonferrous metal workers. Long-term exposure to lower levels of Cd has been related to kidney damage, bone malformation, and the propensity of bones to fracture. Cadmium poisoning has been observed in various areas of the globe. It is a global medical issue that affects a range of organs and may result in a number of fatalities each year. Cadmium has an effect on cell proliferation, separation, and apoptosis. These actions operate in combination with Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) fixing tools, the age of reactive oxygen species (ROS), and

apoptosis recruitment. Cadmium attaches to mitochondria and, at low concentrations, may impair both cell respiration and oxidative phosphorylation[3].

A cosmetic is a material that is added to the human body in order to enhance, restore, or change the beauty or appearance of the skin, hair, nails, lips, eyes, or teeth, or to cleanse, colour, condition, or secure the skin, hair, nails, lips, eyes, or teeth. Archaeologists found the earliest cosmetics, which were utilized for eye make-up and the usage of scented lotions. Cosmetics are the most frequently used product among people nowadays, particularly among adolescent females. People's aesthetic consciousness has generated a need for cosmetics in today's market. As a consequence, the cosmetic business has expanded considerably, creating a broad variety of cosmetics for the treatment besides prettification of teeth, nails, hair, skin, and the body, such as sindoor, and eye shadows, among other things. People's wellness awareness, on the other hand, has drawn physicians and academics to find out what's causing their negative effects. Heavy metal poisoning was found to be the core of the issue. The most common pollutants in beauty items are heavy metals such as lead and cadmium[4].

The significance was first identified in 1912, due to Gourbin's fingernail scrapings (accused of strangling his love) then found that the arrangement of the punitive powder on Marie's neck (a handmade restorative). Emile was found guilty of intentional murder by the jury following corrective evidence and other findings.

Despite the fact that demonstrated, it wasn't until the 1980s that scientific professionals started to examine cosmetic samples in detail. Different nations control the usage and acceptance of different methods. The FDA governs the use of these chemicals in cosmetics in the United States, whereas the European Union (EU) Cosmetics Directive controls their use in European nations.

The guideline in India adhered to the EU Cosmetic Directive, as well as the standards established by the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules 1945, the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940, and the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). The Drugs and Cosmetics Act of 1940 is an Act of the Indian Parliament that governs the import, manufacturing, and distribution of pharmaceuticals in India. The demonstration's primary aim is to guarantee that the prescriptions and cosmetic care items supplied in India are safe, efficient, and satisfy governmental quality standards. Cosmetics, as defined by the Act, are any article intended to be scoured, poured, sprinkled, or splashed on, or acquainted with, or generally applied to the human body or any part thereof for the purpose of purifying, embellishing, advancing the engaging quality, or modifying the appearance, and includes any article intended for use as a section of restorative but excludes cleanser. Cosmetics are controlled in India by the Central Drug Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), which is governed by the Drug and Cosmetic Act 1940 and Rules 1945 (updated up to Dec. 31st 2016). Norms of value in connection to skin care products where the restorative pledges to such standards as may be approved. A cosmetic may be deemed misbranded if it creates an inappropriate shade, or if it isn't marked in an approved method, or if the name, holder, or anything else connected with the restorative contains some explanation that is inaccurate or deceptive in any way[5].

The desire for lighter skin tones has been handed on through the centuries. This is the reason behind the constantly growing frequency of skin lightening treatments. The predominance of skin lightening cosmetics in the beauty business increased as a consequence of this popularity.

Asia has the greatest demand for skin whitening products. Not all skin lightening cosmetics are unlawful, however some creams from outside the EU include ingredients that are banned by safety regulations. Mercury and hydroquinone, for example, have been linked to overdose, skin damage, and liver and kidney failure in long-term usage, as well as corticosteroids, which are only accessible by prescription in the United Kingdom (UK). Misuse of corticosteroid creams has been associated to skin thinning, an increased risk of skin cancer, and, counterintuitively, skin darkening. Skin whitening is utilized to make your skin lighter than it was when you were born. Skin bleaching is another name for this. Creams, washes, pills, and even injections designed to prevent the release of melanin are among the skin lightening medicines available. According to a World Health Organization (WHO) study, 40 percent of Chinese women use skin whitening treatments on a regular basis, compared to 61 percent in India and 77 percent in Nigeria[6].

LITERATURE SURVEY

J. E. Onojah *et al.* explained in the article that long-term exposure to consumer products like cosmetics and hygiene may induce heavy metal poisoning in people. The degree of occurrence of fatal metals in different cosmetics products sold in local stores in Anyigba, Kogi State, Nigeria, were assessed in this research. Five skin lightening creams and five medicated soaps were among the cosmetics tested. After digestion with condensed acids (HNO_3 : H_2SO_4 in a 2:1 ratio), these cosmetics were tested for heavy metals (Cd, Pb, Cr, and Hg). Using a Varian Flame AAS, the concentrations of the selected hazardous heavy metals were measured in triplicate. Chromium was detected in measurable levels in all of the samples examined, with values ranging from 0.0020 to 0.0190 ppm. The concentrations of chromium in samples A (Dettol), B (Fashion fair), C (Septol), D (Tura), and I (Fashion fair) varied from 0.0003 to 0.0027 ppm, whereas the concentrations of chromium in samples F (Fair and White), G (Neurotone), H (Hot Movate), and J (Clear tone) was below the detection threshold. In addition, samples B (Fashion Fair), D (Tura), F (Fair and White), G (Neurotone), and H (Hot movate) contain a measurable volume of lead with concentrations ranging from 0.0063 to 0.0521 ppm, while samples A (Detol), C (Septol), E (Crusader), I (Fashion fair), and J (clear tone) have lead concentrations below the detection level. A detectable amount of mercury was detected in all of the samples examined, ranging from 0.0030 to 3.7022 ppm. The present study clearly demonstrates that the usage of some cosmetic products exposes consumers to tiny amounts of radioactive heavy metals, which may stance health risks if they build in biological processes over time[7].

J. G. Ayenimo *et al.* presented in the article that numerous discovered different there are few or no reports in personal care products, which have biotic effects. Using atomic absorption spectrophotometry, the quantities assessed five different substances commonly used in Nigeria. Many of the medicines contained substantial levels of Cd, Cr, Cu, and Zn. Hair cream contains amounts of Cd and Cu, while primarily responsible for Cr and Zn. It's difficult to tell whether the metal sample are because no cap for cosmetic goods exists; nevertheless, Cd and Cr are prohibited in cosmetics in any amount. The use of these components in soaps and creams for a long period of time may be detrimental to human health and the environment[8].

A. A. Alqadami *et al.* explained in the article, hazardous heavy metals such as metalloid arsenic (As), lead (Pb), titanium (Ti), mercury (Hg), bismuth (Bi), and cadmium (Cd) were identified in using AES. A mixture of hydrofluoric acid, hydrogen peroxide, and nitric acid was employed to

completely digest cosmetic samples. The target chemicals were measured using a conventional addition procedure. Excellent consistency parameters were achieved, such as detection limits, Ti (4.3 ppb), Pb (3.8 ppb), Hg (3.3 ppb), Cd (0.45 ppb), Bi (7.9 ppb), As (4.6 ppb) linearity ($r > 0.999$), as well as the run-to-run besides day-to-day precisions of relative standard deviations of < 3 percent [9].

T. Ahmadi-Jouibari *et al.* articulated in the article that for the detection of cadmium in cosmetic samples, Continuous sample drop flow-based micro-extraction (CSDF-ME) in conjunction with graphite furnace atomic absorption spectrometry (GFAAS) has been developed as a high-performance pre-concentration method. A few microliters of an organic solvent are moved to the bottommost of a conical sample cup in this procedure. As it travels through the organic solvent, administered by a syringe needle is transformed into droplets. As a result, extracts matrix. The conical sample cup is transferred to the GFAAS instrument after utilizing an auto sampler, 20 μ L of the extraction solvent is put into the graphite furnace under optimum circumstances, The method's intra-day as well as inter-day repeatability and reproducibility is 3.2 percent and 4.5 percent, respectively, based upon 7 repetitions. As a consequence, the newly developed method was successfully utilized to extract and quantify cadmium ions in lipsticks, eye shadows, and hair colors, giving acceptable results [10].

DISCUSSION

This study is based on a review of many research on heavy metal contaminants in skin-whitening/lightening creams performed throughout the globe. Cadmium (Cd) was selected as the heavy metal for my research since it is one of the most frequently identified toxins in a range of cosmetic items, and there are few studies on Cd alone. The majority of studies utilize the acid-digestion technique to prepare materials. With the exception of one research that utilized inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectrometry, atomic absorption spectrometry is the most frequently used confirmatory technique. The distinction between AAS and AES is that AAS measures the absorption of electromagnetic radiation whereas AES measures the output of radiation. The WHO detection limit or their own nation legislation was utilized as a reference in this research. According to research, wearing such cosmetics produces exposing customers to small amounts of deadly heavy metals, which may create healthiness problems if they stay in biological systems for extended periods of time. It was also discovered that, although certain brands' usage of heavy metals is within the legal limit, they still represent a considerable danger to people. Both of these tests are being carried out in order to identify which cosmetics products marketed in our sector are in violation of the regulations and to bring this to the government's notice.

As a result, establishing metals in cosmetic goods regulation limitations is essential. Low-quality materials should be avoided, especially for long-term continuous usage, because heavy metals are readily absorbed via the skin. Following the results, strongly recommended creams be checked for metal being marketed. Certain materials, both local and non-local, breached the rules by utilizing excessive quantities of heavy metal impurities, causing deterioration. The research examined the concentrations of various metals as well as a metal's concentration in different brands. Cadmium poisoning may have a variety of adverse effects, including cell death and enhanced cell proliferation, all of which can lead to cancer. It also has an impact on the blood flow, skeletal muscle, brain, lungs, and kidneys, resulting in heart attacks, liver illness,

hypertension, immune system suppression. People who use skin-lightening treatments may be more susceptible to greater amounts of heavy metals, according to the research. The two studies looked at were both done in Nigeria and showed higher levels of heavy metal toxicity.

Doctors warn that using a whitening cream containing topical steroids for a long period would induce hypertension, high blood pressure, and suppression of the body's natural hormones. Any adverse effects, such as stretch marks, may endure a lifetime. Hydroquinone has been identified by many physicians as the perpetrator in instances of abuse. A blue-black discoloration of the skin is an uncommon adverse effect of abusing hydroquinone. Since poisonous heavy metals are known to persist in organic settings, utilizing these cosmetic products exposes consumers to small quantities of deadly heavy metals, which is competent to offer a health risk.

Each touch departs as indicated by Lockard's trading guideline. As a consequence, traces of cosmetic products are frequently found at a law-breaking scene. The evidentiary value of such follow evidence will be decided by the kind of test technique employed. The optimal competency should be non-ruinous, reproducible, and capable of evaluating a limited number of trials with little to no example preparation. In practice, the system's capacity to break down puzzling. About five-thousand different materials have been recognized as having been utilized in cosmetics. As a consequence, various techniques are required for the efficient separation of restorative displays obtained in criminal cases. For example, chromatographic methods are commonly utilized to separate shade specialists in skin care products, while spectroscopic techniques are used to dissect other natural and inorganic mixes. The methods for assessing different components included in cosmetic displays are shown in the following figure.

1. Metal Contamination from Moisturizing and Skin Lightening Creams:

The amounts of 10 metals (Al, Zn, Mn, Fe, Co, Cu, Cr, Ni, Pb, and Cd) were tested in many frequently used products, as well as unknown beauty care goods, to give insight into the potential of metal harm from their usage. After corrosive absorption, the metal content of these materials was measured by AAS. The dynamic components of beautifying agents are selected depending on the item's expected use. As a result of the methamphetamine manufacturing process, any of the components in these cosmetics were inadvertently used and employed in beautifiers. However, some metals are deliberately employed as remedial treatments. Metals such as lead (Pb), nickel (Ni), mercury (Hg), cobalt (Co), chromium (Cr), cadmium (Cd), arsenic (As), and antimony (Sb) are restricted in beautifiers owing to their toxicity. People's skin is exposed to the majority of these cosmetic care products. Despite the fact that the skin acts as a barrier to the outside world, some medicinal synthetics may permeate the epidermis and disseminate to critical interior organs, causing short- and long-term poisoning.

Cadmium is a cell toxin that causes a range of consequences, such as cell death or enhanced cell growth. As a consequence, Cd is categorized as a category 2A carcinogen by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC). Other metals, including Al, Zn, Mn, Fe, and Ni, are essential to humanity since they play a part in a number of biological processes. Notwithstanding the importance of these metals to humans as well as other animals, their presence in ornamental produce offers a major well-being danger. Skin-lightening lotions are in great demand in industrialized nations. Sunscreen filters must be employed in the formulations designed to inhibit the formation natural protection opposed to ultra-violet (UV) rays.

The cream brands selected were intentionally chosen to reflect the brands used by individuals of different socioeconomic levels. To study the variations in elemental concentrations single brand, an entire of five samples of dissimilar consignment numbers besides manufacturing dates were acquired inside each form or brand. By flame atomic absorption spectroscopy, the entire eaten samples were examined in triplicate for Al, Zn, Mn, Fe, Co, Cu, Cr, Ni, Pb, and Cd (Perkin Elmer, Analyst 200, Norwalk, and USA).

The quantities of the metals examined varied substantially ($p < 0.05$) across brands. Additionally, within a single brand, there are significant differences ($p < 0.05$) in the quantities of some metals. The variations in metal content in these goods are related to variances in raw materials and manufacturing techniques. Batch-to-batch variations in packing, variances in product built-up processes, and contamination from external sources are all possible foundations of irregularity. In contrast to the moisturizing creams, these two testing levels of Cd. The permissible limit in Canada is 3.0 $\mu\text{g/g}$. In this study, three tests with abnormally high Cd quantity, the other body cream samples examined had lower Cd amounts. They discuss creams in this study article. They compared the metal content of skin whitening and moisturizing lotions. They also compared the incidence and composition of each metal under study in creams from different brands and nations. To assess the degree of toxicity, they tested the metal concentration in creams and compared it to the reference level. They also talked about the negative effects of each metal at greater quantities in our body. Except for Ni, the results showed that have tested, indicating that individuals instead of moisturizing creams may be exposed to greater metal concentrations.

2. *Microwave Digestion Used To Determine Heavy Metals:*

The target chemicals were measured using a conventional addition procedure. Cosmetics are recognized to be a vital part of everyday body care. By adding these things to human skin, they create local exposure to certain variables. Cosmetics include a broad variety of ingredients, some of which are potentially hazardous. When breathed, ingested, or absorbed by the skin on topical therapy, it poisons the body, producing various illnesses. It also has a tendency to remain in the body. Cd, Hg, and Pb levels were found to be greater than the WHO's permissible limits in a research performed.

In this study, by utilizing a microwave-assisted acid digestion procedure, the levels were measured and compared to certified findings. The cosmetics samples were gathered in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from different beauty aid stores and pharmacies. Strong metal concentrations (Ti, Pb, Hg, Cd, Bi, and As) were detected in 15 cosmetics samples. The accuracy of the method was demonstrated in this article by estimating the amounts of chemicals in cosmetics samples after spiking with specified concentrations of compounds. Heavy metal recovery levels in cosmetic samples were found to be between 87 and 105 percent.

The suggested method's limit of detection (LOD) is designed using a signal-to-noise (S/N) ratio of 3:1. For Cd, a LOD of 0.45 $\mu\text{g/l}$ was obtained. By examining $n = 8$ samples of the same quantity of 0.1 $\mu\text{g/l}$ for Ti, Pb, Hg, Cd, Bi, and As, the precisions of the suggested technique were determined. The values of standard deviation (SD) obtained varied from 1.41 to 2.6 percent. Cd was utilized in six of the investigated samples, with amounts ranging from 0.20 to 0.6 $\mu\text{g/kg}$ of sample. Cd was found in lower quantities in the examined samples. Sample-10 showed the greatest amounts of Cd, while sample-07 had the lowest values. Out of the 15 samples examined, nine were determined to be below the LOD. The WHO has set a Cd limit of

0.3 mg per liter in cosmetology. The quantity of Cd in 11 samples were found under the WHO acceptable limit using this technique. Using statistical MATLAB tools, the usual addition graphs were produced by displaying the strength in contradiction of the solution of the applied sum alongside the solutions of the computed samples. The results of this research showed that hazardous heavy metal content was present in cosmetics in various amounts. Strong metal (Cd) quantity in cosmetics samples ranged between 0.20 and 0.6 (g/l) on average. As a consequence, recommended goods be tested for heavy metals requirements before being sold.

They estimated the quantity of heavy metals in all of the examined samples in this study. Samples were selected at random from the industry, with no limits or selection barriers in place. They determined the spectrum of metals present in the material in this study. They were able to differentiate between samples that were below and above the reference point. They linked the concentration to the WHO's permitted limit. Based on the results, it was decided that the method may be utilized.

Poisoning is a sickness or process in which a living creature is intentionally harmed or affected by a toxic substance or animal venom. Acute poisoning occurs when a toxic substance is introduced in a single event or over a brief period of time. Chronic Poisoning is a repeated or continuous exposure to a toxic substance in which symptoms do not develop immediately or after each presentation. Poisoning symptoms may resemble a number of diseases, including seizures, inebriation, stroke, and insulin response.

CONCLUSION

The findings of a study of all research on heavy metal toxicity in skin whitening or skin lightening cosmetics show that harmful heavy metal content (Cd) was present in different concentrations in the cosmetics, with certain products beyond the WHO's permissible limits, potentially causing lethal effects on human health. People hold the notion that if there is poisoning, it can only be found in local items and not in branded ones. However, after evaluating different tests, it is found that non local cosmetic goods have greater levels of heavy metal toxicity than locally marketed products in certain instances. Cadmium poisoning may result in a number of consequences, all of which can lead to cancer. It also affects the blood vessels, cardiac muscle, kidney, lungs, and brain, causing heart attack, hypertension, liver damage, immune system suppression, and other symptoms. According to the results, individuals sensitive to greater amounts of heavy metals. The two investigations that were evaluated were performed and showed a significant degree of heavy metal toxicity.

As a consequence, setting regulatory limits for metals in beautifying yields is essential. Since heavy metals are readily absorbed via the skin, low-quality fabrics should be avoided, especially for long-term continuous usage. As a consequence of the study, it is highly recommended creams be tested for heavy metal stages prior being sold. Certain goods, both local and non-local, violated the regulations and utilized excessive amounts of heavy metal impurities, resulting in pollution. The studies examined the concentrations of different metals as well as the concentration of a metal in various brands. There have been research performed to evaluate the health hazards linked with its toxicity.

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