

SKIN LIGHTENING CREAMS



Ochronosis is the name given to the damage to skin caused by skin lightening cream.

Ochre - means the yellow green pigment that forms in the deeper layers of the skin. This happens only with the use of bleaching creams which contain a chemical substance called hydroquinone. Unfortunately this causes permanent and irreversible damage - no matter whatever is applied thereafter.

When women apply these creams to their face the skin is bleached and appears whiter than other parts of the body. Then with being in the sun the skin becomes darker black, velvety and patches appear on the face and the neck.

It takes about 3-4 years of using these creams before this very bad result occurs. Women often seek the help of their doctors or chemists who may prescribe cortisone cream to dampen down the inflammation (swelling and redness). But these creams unfortunately may produce even more harm. Pimples develop, redness of face, stretch-marks, hairiness and bleeding under the skin.



The black patches can be seen on this woman's face and around her neck.



This woman has developed very bad pimples from using cortisone cream.



This woman has dark velvety patches on her neck from using skin lightening cream.

In the past few years skin specialists have tried to get this chemical, hydroquinone, removed from these skin lightening creams - however these creams with the chemical in them are still sold widely.

The main reason for selling these dangerous skin lightening creams is for making profit. Many women use these creams to lighten their skin, but some women may not even know that it bleaches the skin - they merely use it as a facial cream.

Because of the advertising that women see and the things they are told, they become unhappy with the way they are - they try to change themselves. That is why women with straight hair perm their hair and those with curly hair - straighten it out. White women want to tan and Black women want to be white - and often do permanent damage to themselves.

WARNING

Don't buy medicine for a damaged skin from just anybody, e.g. a nurse you know, simply because its cheaper or easier to get. These remedies are no better than those from chemists or ordinary doctors.

GO TO THE SKIN SPECIALIST AT HOSPITAL.

Creams to Avoid



Here is a list of skin lightening creams:

Snow White	Karoo	Ambi	Hollywood
He Man	Mister Artra	Look of Nature	
Hi Lite	Dolly Lo	Nature	
Super Rose	Kool Look	White Mink	
Bu-Tone	Bright 'n Lovely	Cuti-Cura	

An alternative safe cream is Boots E45 cream.

GET SPEAK BY POST

DON'T MISS EVEN ONE SINGLE ISSUE!

SUBSCRIPTION

I wish to subscribe to SPEAK:

- My name is: _____
- My address is: _____

- I would like to read SPEAK in _____ (Eng/Zulu)
- I would like to get _____ copies of SPEAK each time
- I have enclosed R _____ for the next 4 issues of SPEAK.

RATES: Ordinary: R1.20 for 4
 Donor: R12 for 4
 Overseas: R15 for 4

SEND TO

SPEAK COLLECTIVE
 PO BOX 19375
 DOBHERTON
 4015
 DURBAN