Baby Personal Care Products: Ingredient Safety Issues

Brought To You By:



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Baby's Skin Development

Age	Skin condition
32-34 weeks of gestational age	Stratum corneum becomes functionally mature
8-24 months	The barrier efficiency of the infant's skin is same as an adult's skin.
The first weeks of life	The acid mantle of the skin develops
New born skin pH	5.6 (because of the enzymes and lipids present on the upper epidermis)
Infant skin of pH 5.6	Immature leading to increased permeability, reduced capacity of defence against chemical and microbial aggression

For the defence mechanism against infections, the skin pH should be always between 4.5 - 6. The acidity of the cutaneous layer can be altered by the usage of caustic alkaline soaps or by occlusion. A further decrease in the pH may lead to an increase in the permeability of the skin surface and an increase in skin pH may lead to cutaneous inflammatory diseases.

Baby Personal Care Products

- Baby personal care products (PCPs) are intended to be used on infants and children under the age of three.
- These products are specially formulated to be mild, non-irritating and the ingredients are selected based on these properties.
- Examples are baby shampoo, lotion, oil, diapers, baby food, bottles, mattresses, powder, wipes, teethers, creams, etc.



WHAT'S INSIDE CONVENTIONAL BABY BATH PRODUCTS?

Your skin is your largest organ and since it's porous, what you rub into your baby's skin could be absorbed directly into her blood stream.

bath product

bath product

in the blood

Ingredients To Be Avoided In Baby Care Products...

Nitrosamines (formed from cocamide diethanolamine DEA, triethanolamine TEA, monoethanolamine MEA	Ethoxycinnamate	Fragrance (phthalates)
Pesticides and bleaching agents	Triclosan	Propyl ester
Polycarbonates in plastics	Vinyl	Benzoic acid
Lead-taints in wooden toys	Pesticides	Parabens
Formaldehyde (HCHO releasing chemicals- DMDM hydantoin, imidazolidinyl urea, diazolidinyl urea, quaternium-15, bronopol, 5 bromo5 nitro 1,3 dioxane and hydroxymethylglycinate, methenamine),	Oxybenzone, benzophenone, PABA, avobenzone,	Propylene glycol (PEG/PPG)
1, 4 dioxane and ethylated surfactants (avoid sodium laureth sulfate (SLES&SLS),	Mineral oil	Homosalate
Ceteareth, myreth, oleth, oxynol, -xynol and PEGs)	Bleaching agents	Fluoride and talc

	Statistics	/			
Age	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Statistics				
Infants (up to age 2)	10 times more vulnerable to carcinogenic chemicals than adults				
Children (age 2 to 15)	3 times more vulnerable to carcinogens than adults.				
By the age of 2 babies have accumulated 50% of their life-time cancer risk					
Children	nearly 9% of baby products has ingredients that are toxic and cause respiratory illness				

How To Select Baby Skin Care Products?

- Consider products with fewer ingredients.
- Use fewer body care products use those with organic and natural ingredients.
- Look for the products that list healthy ingredients at the beginning.
- Buy from reputable companies that use quality testing.
- Most effective products cost more than regular ones.
- High-quality ingredients without cheap filler products are manufactured in small batches.
- In baby food, look for USFDA seal.
- Avoid unscented products as they may mask other fragrances.



 In Malaysia, cosmetics are regulated under Control of Drugs and Cosmetics Regulations 1984 (CDCR 1984).

GUIDELINES FOR CONTROL OF COSMETIC PRODUCTS IN MALAYSIA

NATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL REGULATORY AGENCY MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA

- All cosmetic manufacturers must comply with Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs).
- Cosmetics must be submitted for notification and must have passed regulatory requirements. Such requirements include: safety requirements, labelling requirements, absence of poisons under Poisons Act 1952, etc.
- National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency (NPRA) also actively monitors the cosmetics via Post Market Surveillance programmes to audit and ensure safety of cosmetics.

Only **notified cosmetics** may be sold! All notified cosmetics will have a notification number : NOTyymmxxxxK

How to search for safer ingredients and products?

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Thank you



