



CONTACT DERMATITIS AND OCCUPATIONAL DERMATOSES

## METHYLCHLOROISOTHIAZOLINONE AND/OR METHYLISOTHIAZOLINONE IN COSMETIC PRODUCTS—A MARKET SURVEY

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**Background:** There was a global epidemic of Methylchloroisothiazolinone (MCI) and/or methylisothiazolinone (MI) contact allergy from 2009 to 2015. In response, the Thai Ministry of Public Health regulated the use of a mixture of MCI/MI in cosmetics.

**Objective:** To survey the presence of MCI/MI and MI alone, as labelled on cosmetics sold in our market, prior to and after the ministerial directive.

**Methods:** The presence of MCI and/or MI in leave-on and rinse-off cosmetics sold in the market, based on the labelling of ingredients in 3 445 products, was analysed.

**Results:** Before the implementation date, most of leave-on products contained MCI/MI. After the regulations came into force, the only leave-on cosmetic subcategories that complied with the law were facial skin-care, sunscreen and make-up products. MCI/MI and MI-alone were found on the labels of both leave-on and rinse-off products, the presence of each varying between product subcategories.

**Conclusions:** Despite the ministerial regulations restricting their use, MCI and/or MI are still found in cosmetics sold in the Thai market. Dermatologists should be aware of this situation and counsel patients to avoid products containing MCI and/or MI.

