















Donna Kasuska: Chemical Consciousness - Hormone Harmony or Hormone Hijack?









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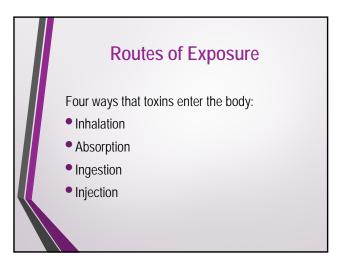






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### Cosmetics and Personal Care Products The skin is the largest organ in the body Never put anything on your skin that you wouldn't be willing to eat! Exception: large-molecule substances like titanium dioxide and zinc oxide (found in sunscreens) Use <a href="https://www.ewg.org">www.ewg.org</a> Skin Deep and Sunscreen databases to check all personal care products



### **Environmental Working Group**

"There is no end to the tricks that endocrine disruptors can play on our bodies: increasing production of certain hormones; decreasing production of others; imitating hormones; turning one hormone into another; interfering with hormone signaling; telling cells to die prematurely; competing with essential nutrients; binding to essential hormones; accumulating in organs that produce hormones."

### Health Effects

- Non-descended testes in young males
- Developmental effects on the nervous system in children
- Prostate cancer in men
- Developmental effects on the nervous system in children
- Attention deficit /hyperactivity in children
- Thyroid cancer
- Breast cancer
- Obesity
- infertility or reduced fertility
- learning and memory difficulties
- adult-onset diabetes
- cardiovascular disease

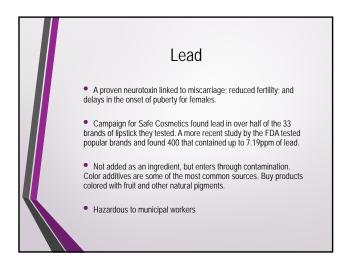
## Parabens Class of compounds used in cosmetics as antifungal preservatives Butylparaben, ethylparaben, isobutylparaben, methylparaben, propylparaben Is absorbed by the skin and mimics estrogen in the body Can cause problems with male fertility Has been found in breast tumors When put on skin, can cause DNA damage and increased skin aging

## Aluminum Chlorohydrate Found in antiperspirants Aluminum has been found in breast tumors Alzheimer victims have elevated levels of aluminum Interferes with normal body route of detoxification Hazardous process for plant employees

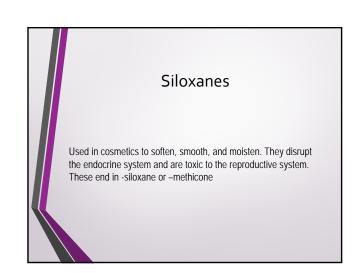
# Phthalates • May be disruptive to the endocrine system - developmental, reproductive, and neurological damage. • Ability to mimic human hormones – • could cause reproductive abnormalities and decreased production of testosterone in males, and decreased male fertility. • Link between phthalates and premature delivery and endometriosis in women. • Used to plasticize products, making them more flexible or better able to hold in color and scent. Can be grouped under and listed as "fragrance."

## "Fragrance" An undisclosed mixture of chemicals Can cause irritability, muscle pain, asthma, bloating, joint aches, sinus pain, fatigue, sore throat, eye irritation, gastrointestinal problems, laryngitis, headaches, dizziness, swollen lymph nodes, spikes in blood pressure, coughing, and/or burning or itching skin irritations. Many people are allergic to fragrance and often do not know it until they are away from it for a while and then experience an immediate return of symptoms upon re-exposure.

### Butylphenyl Methylpropional Used as a fragrance ingredient Acts as an allergen, can cause dermatitis May act as estrogen within the body and lead to breast cancer.



## Ceteareth-20 May contain impurities containing ethylene oxide or 1,4-dioxane, which are known carcinogens. Furthermore, it enhances penetration of the skin by other chemicals, which could allow these carcinogens and other harmful substances into the body.



### Preservatives

- BHA- Causes cancer in mice, rats, hamsters, and fish, and is suspected to be a carcinogen for humans.
- TBHQ—High doses can cause nausea or collapse.
   Linked to stomach cancer and DNA damage.
- BHT Linked to organ, developmental and reproductive toxicity. May induce allergies.
- European Commission on Endocrine Disruption lists BHT and BHA as a Category 1 priority substance due to evidence that it interferes with hormonal function

### Triclosan

- Used in cleaning supplies and antibacterial hand washes
- Impairs muscle function
- Mimics estrogen in the body and can increase risk of breast cancer
- Linked to liver toxicity
- Linked to antibiotic resistance
- Destroys probiotic environment in the gut

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### Reduce Toxic Body Burden

- Use EWG's Skin Deep Cosmetics Database to choose the safest products
- Products bearing the USDA 100% Organic seal are safest bet.
- Make your own personal care and household cleaning products.
- Look for products that have a Compact for Safe Cosmetics signature.
- Avoid artificial air fresheners, dryer sheets, fabric softeners or other synthetic fragrances.





