



Australian Government

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing
Therapeutic Goods Administration

Sunscreen ingredients – Information for consumers

Sunscreens play an essential role in protecting consumers against the sun's harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays. An ingredient found in sunscreens is currently under review. Find out what this means for you and why it's important that you and your family continue to use sunscreens.

Protecting against harmful UV rays

Australia has the highest rates of skin cancer and melanoma in the world with around 2,000 people dying each year. Consumers should protect themselves from the sun in 5 ways – using sunscreen, seeking shade and wearing protective clothing, hats and sunglasses.

How sunscreens are regulated

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) regulates sunscreens supplied in Australia for the primary purpose of protecting the skin against UV radiation. As part of the TGA's regulatory role, we continually monitor and review ingredients used in sunscreens to maintain the highest standards of quality, safety and effectiveness.

Review of sunscreen ingredients

The TGA conducted a review of a substance found in sunscreens. The review found that it may have possible risks when used over long periods of time and in higher concentrations. These risks are ***much lower*** than the risks to your health from sun exposure.

Our review recommends changes to sunscreen products that contain this substance so they meet the highest standards of safety for ***prolonged and frequent use***. We are currently conducting a public consultation process on any potential changes.

We are not proposing a change in use of sunscreen, or any warnings, bans or recalls of any products.

How do I find out more?

You can visit the TGA's website to stay up-to-date on any proposed changes. Visit [tga.gov.au](https://www.tga.gov.au) and search 'sunscreen ingredients'.