



Safety of Cosmetic Talc

Recently there have been a number of media reports on the possible link of talcum powder with ovarian cancer. These reports stem from a recent US legal case regarding the use of talc-based products and the link to cancer, which has caused concern for those using talc containing products.

The Cosmetic Toiletry & Fragrance Association (CTFA) supports the global cosmetic industry and trade association's position on this matter and expresses its disappointment in the outcome of the case linking talc to an increased risk of cancer.

Talc is a widely used ingredient in food, drugs and cosmetic products. Cosmetic-grade talc is produced so that it conforms to the strictest safety requirements, as specified by the European Pharmacopeia and other similar publications. A significant number of international scientific studies have been conducted all of which unequivocally disprove any possible connection between the use of cosmetic talc and any form of cancer.

In addition, cosmetic manufacturers have to ensure that their products comply with rigorous product safety requirements internationally, which ensures that only safe products are imported, produced and marketed locally in South Africa.

Globally, cosmetic products are regulated to ensure that products placed onto the market are entirely safe for consumer use.