

Fefac press release regarding the OCU study on Isdin sunscreens

Barcelona, May 30, 2019 - Correct solar protection prevents the damage that rays can do to our organism. This adequate solar protection is obtained by adding up different elements. First, a sunscreen which has its characteristics backed and corroborated by different studies carried out by professional entities, independent from the manufacturer, recognized for their quality protocols as well as public and accessible studies. Second, and not less important, traceability, meaning, controlling at all times the transportation and distribution conditions of the product in order to guarantee its perfect state and, therefore, offering the best result. Third and last, but crucially relevant, is that the product be delivered to the citizen by a health professional, the pharmacist, in his or her pharmacy, who adds their expert advice for correct usage, enabling the consumer to obtain the necessary protection.

The analysis from OCU has put into question the safety of a product, in this case from Isdin, based on a study that has not been made public, of which characteristics are unknown, that ignores the guarantees that the manufacturer provided. The style of the report from OCU is not novel, due to its periodicity, frequency and orientation, commonly directed against the pharmacy and products recommended by health professionals, pharmacists and their teams, also accredited.

Not being able to contrast the studies that Isdin has shared together with the analysis of the OCU, who refuses to provide theirs, and on top regarding a product for child protection, we await a statement from the Spanish Agency for Medicine and Sanitary Products (AEMPS). Until then, we want to invite citizens to give fair value to incontestable facts such as the credibility, rigor, and research and innovation capacity of a laboratory that is one of the leaders in photoprotection.

Likewise, from our federation we highlight the importance of the sum of provable quality products from a responsible and rigorous laboratory, coupled with the dispensing under pharmaceutical control, which guarantees the product's proper preservation, being the pharmacist the one who recommends the ideal product to each person depending on their personal needs and who guides the consumer on the correct usage of the product.

From Fefac we consider that this lack of rigor in the study, lack of transparency from OCU, and the orientation and repetitiveness of their reports, leads us to conclude that most probably the intention is to create media noise with unknown interests. These reports are aimed at discrediting a health service such as the pharmacy, in this case targeting and discrediting the products that this entity offers and recommends, when the level of satisfaction of citizens with the pharmacy is one of the highest thanks to the proximity, professionalism, and safety they provide.

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