

# OFFICIAL ABSTRACT and CERTIFICATION

Type Title Here The Influence of Education of Hazardous Cosmetic Chemicals on Teenage Consumerism

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Start Typing the Body of Your Abstract Here Beginning at the Left Margin

**BACKGROUND:** Through cosmetics and personal care products, teenage girls come into contact with ingredients that can potentially disturb necessary hormonal activity, such as phthalates, parabens, triclosan and oxybenzone. Unfortunately, many are oblivious to this.

**OBJECTIVE:** Through a series of educational material, we hope to familiarize teenage girls with the potentially hazardous ingredients in their products and how to make better informed decisions when independently purchasing products.

**METHODS:** Girls between the ages of 14 and 18 will randomly be asked to join the study. Upon agreeing, they will be given consent forms to look over with their parents. Once all the girls have handed in their forms, they will be called for a short presentation regarding the ingredients of concern and how to choose safer products. How they use this material will be assessed through monthly surveys that ask if they are replacing any unsafe products, looking at labels to identify for potentially harmful ingredients, and/or taking steps to choose safer products.

**RELEVANCE:** It is necessary to effectively communicate with girls, especially teenagers, about how the products that they use everyday can have adverse effects on their health, including an increase in the risk of developing breast cancer and/or infertility.

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1. As a part of this research project, the student directly handled, manipulated, or interacted with (check ALL that apply):
  - ☒ human participants ☐ potentially hazardous biological agents
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