

# DERMATOLOGY AND DERMATOLOGICAL SURGERY

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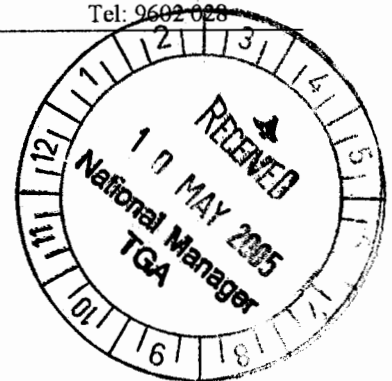
21<sup>st</sup> April 2005

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*Mr Artemi  
ce  
in ballroom*

Mr Terry Slater  
National Manager  
TGA  
PO BOX 100  
WODEN ACT 2606



Dear Mr. Slater,

I am writing to you regarding the Australian review of policy frame work for regulating products at the Cosmetic/Therapeutic Interface, specifically sun screen products. As a registered Pharmacist of 20 years and Dermatologist of 7 years experience I strongly oppose the suggestion to deregulate secondary sun screens with an SPF of no more than 20. Australia is the skin cancer capital of the world with one in two Australian's destined to develop skin cancer. It is estimated that one in 70 Australian's born today will develop a Melanoma in their lifetime.

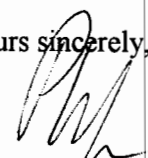
Sun protection is vital and certainly sun screen agents with an SPF on the label are seen as providing an important therapeutic benefit. Mention of the SPF on the label is itself a claim for efficacy of the product for prevention of sunburn and skin cancer. The SPF is also dependent on quality of manufacturing methods, stability of the formulation and use before a proven expiry date. **There must continue to be control by the TGA over all these aspects.** I would be most concerned if any product that makes any claim for sun protection of SPF could be sold as a cosmetic without this level of control by the TGA.

**To risk sunburn in any person due to the poor quality of the sun screen is medically negligent.**

In conclusion I suspect when this suggestion is brought to the attention of the general media they will be equally concerned and happy to voice their strong dissatisfaction.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

  
Phillip Artemi.

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