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Food & Drug Administration
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To Whom It May Concern:

This in reference to docket #1978N-0065, RIN 0910-AF53. I would like to express my opinion representing the American Osteopathic College of Dermatology. I would like to state that our dermatologists within the AOCD have been using hydroquinone products for many years and find that they are quite effective for those patients who have skin discoloration problems. In more than 30 years experience in dermatology, I've not had any adverse effects reported from the use of hydroquinone.

Hydroquinone is one of the most effective molecules for the treatment of dark discoloration over the past 40-50 years and it's been used in millions of people. It is used to treat the top concerns among our patients including melasma, photo aging, post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation, medically and cosmetically disfiguring dyschromias.

Since 1961, the hydroquinone has demonstrated a safe and effective profile among the clinicians prescribing or recommending hydroquinone products. In spite of the human exposure to natural sources of hydroquinone in wheat, pears, berries, coffee, tea, onions, rice and red wine, there is not an association with carcinogenicity. There have been no reported cases of related malignancies in more than 50 years of manufacturing the use of hydroquinone. Thus I would express our great concern and hope that the FDA allows the continued use of hydroquinone products, both over-the-counter and as prescription items.

Sincerely,


Bill V. Way, D.O., FAOCD
President of American Osteopathic College of Dermatology

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