

LETTER TO 'THE CAFÉ' ON TV3. COLOURING YOUR HAIR AT HOME.

Morena Mike,

I have just watched your segment on café about home hair colour, and now I am fielding calls and answering emails from our concerned members. New Zealand Association of Registered Hairdressers is the voice of the hair and barbering industry in New Zealand. We help maintain professional standards and deal with complaints from the public. We recommend that consumers get advice from a trained hair professional and not a hair and beauty retailer. In New Zealand there is no requirement for a hairdresser or barber to be qualified and we currently only have 55% of hairdresser or barbers that have a qualification or are working towards a qualification.

Our member salons all employ qualified hair professionals and we guarantee quality work carried out by qualified staff. The main allergen in hair colour is 2-Chloro-p-Phenylenediamine (PPD) and while all manufacturers of colour in Europe (most professional in salon colour brands are European companies) have abided by the EU Cosmetic Products Regulation and removed PPD from their colour from 22 November 2019 (sell through 22 Feb 2020) there is no requirement for other countries to do so. Therefore there is more chance that pharmacy or supermarket colour still have these ingredients.

It is always recommended that an allergy test is performed before colouring, something that the public will seldom do. We do not recommend the use of home colour that is purchased from a supermarket, pharmacy or supplied by a salon as there is a risk that the ingredients can cause an allergic reaction, ranging from skin irritation and burns to anaphylactic shock and in severe cases event death. This would put extra strain on the healthcare industry with the current Covid19 crisis.

While there is definitely an emotional boost that occurs when you have had your hair coloured NZARH recommends the public to use shampoo or conditioner with temporary colouring effect, touch up sprays or powders to camouflage or blend their natural and coloured hair and not home colour kits. Use a deep conditioning hair treatment to have an at home pamper session and leave your hair colouring to the professionals, they will need your support after a month with no work..... and you won't end up with a big bill for colour correction!

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you need any further clarification.