

# Haircoloring in the Salon

*Developed by*

*Western Massachusetts Coalition for  
Occupational Safety and Health*

*Funded by*

*The Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Institute*

# HAIRCOLORING



- **Types of Haircolor**
- **Haircoloring Processes**
  - **Health Concerns**
- **Health and Safety Precautions**
- **Less Hazardous Product Alternatives**

# Types of Haircolor

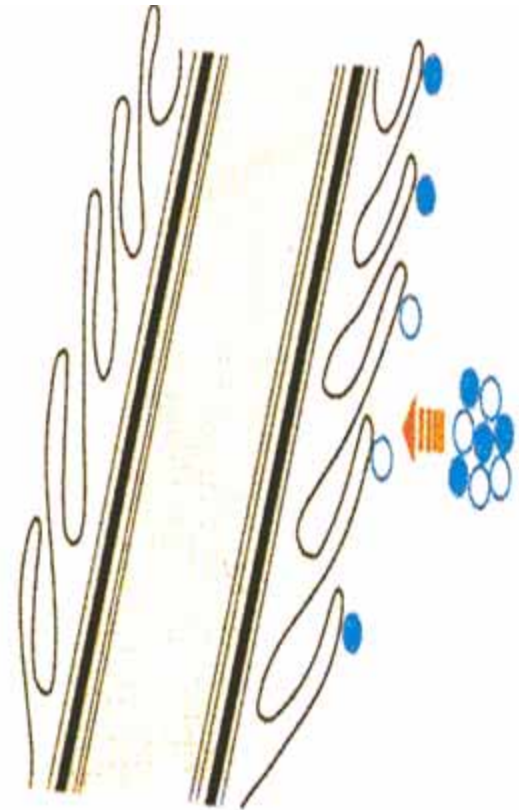
- **Temporary**
- **Semi-Permanent**
- **Demi-Permanent:**
  - **Oxidative Deposit - Only**
- **Permanent:**
  - **Non-Oxidative – Lift/Deposit**
  - **Oxidative**



# Types of Hair Color

## 1. *Temporary*

- *Coats the outside* of the hair. Uses large molecules too big to penetrate the hair shaft.
- There is a physical action (*coating*) on the hair, not chemical action (*penetrating*).
- Does not lighten or change the structure of the hair.



## Types of Hair Color – 1. *Temporary*

- These are the least hazardous of all dyes. Uses food grade dyes approved by FDA. *Recently there have been non-certified direct dyes introduced into the market which may require a patch test.*
- Spray-on temporary haircoloring that contain metallic salts can build-up and can cause adverse chemical reactions with future chemical services.
- These dyes are flammable.

# Types of Hair Color

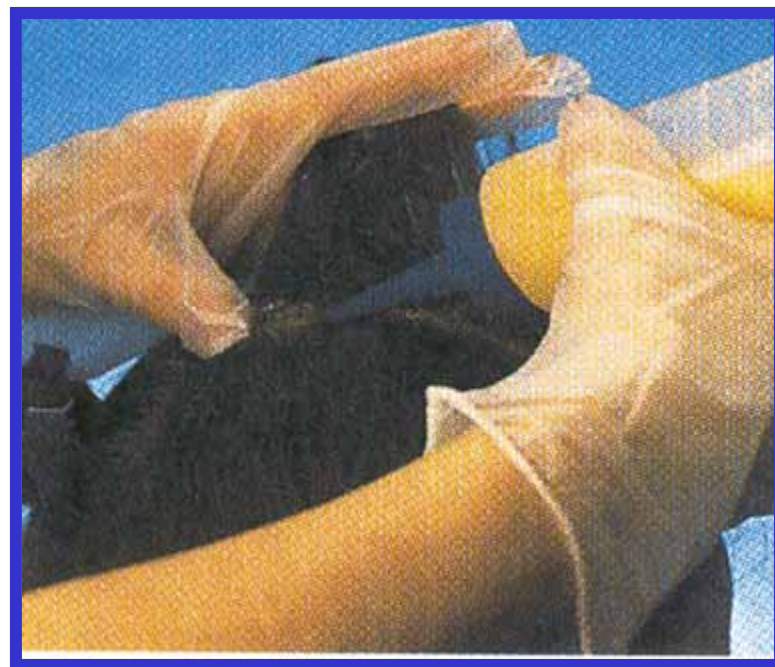
## *2. A. Permanent*

## *2. B. Semi-Permanent Hair Colors*

**Often both use Aniline Derivative Tints  
*from Para-Phenylenediamines***

**Also known as:**

- **Oxidation Tints**
- **Penetrating Tints**
- **Peroxide Tints**
- **Synthetic Organic Tints**
- **Para-dyes**
- **“Tints”**



# Chemicals of Concern

## *Permanent and Semi-Permanent Hair Dyes*

- *Para-Phenylenediamines*
  - Derivatives from coal tar
  - Darker dyes have more phenylenediamine
- *Health Affects*
  - Skin, eye, respiratory sensitizer
  - Severe allergies – e.g., facial and neck swelling
  - Dermatitis – e.g., rashes
  - Mutagenic when mixed with peroxide



# Types of Hair Color

## 2) A. *Semi-Permanent - Traditional*

- Uses a medium size molecule.
- Has a pH of 8.0 to 9.0 which causes a **slight alkaline reaction to *swell* the hair shaft**, causing the cuticle to *rise*.
- This allows some color molecules to *enter* the cortex, and some to *coat* the cuticle.
- **A neutral or slightly acid after-rinse is used to stop the alkaline swelling reaction**, allow the cuticle to close, and trap the color molecules inside.

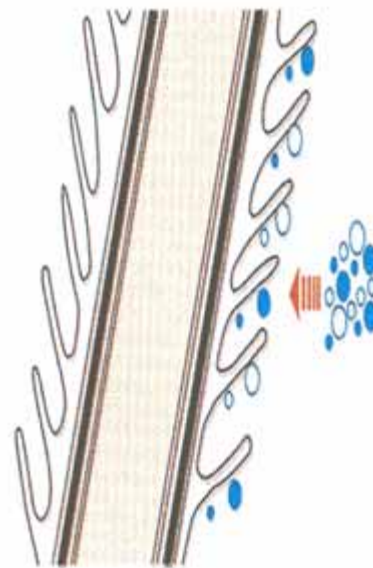


# Types of Hair Color

## 2. A. *Semi-Permanent - Traditional*

**Less damaging than permanent dyes since it does not lighten.**

**Causes a mild *chemical* and *physical* change in the hair shaft.**



## **Chemicals of Concern**

### ***Semi - Permanent Hair Dyes: Azo Colors***

- **Derived from benzidine, a known carcinogen.**
- **Can revert back to benzidine in the body.**
- **Azo Direct Black 38 and Direct Blue 6 are carcinogenic in their own right.**

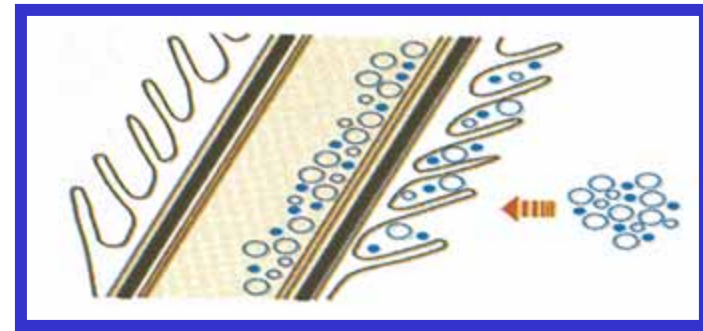
# Types of Haircolor

## 2) B. *Semi-Permanent - Polymer*

- They are different than traditional semi-permanent dyes in chemical composition.
- They combine many molecules to form a chain called a *polymer*. Polymers *coat* the hair shaft rather than *penetrate*. They do not change the melanin.
- *Heat* is used to deepen the color penetration *rather* than the use of the *chemical oxidation* process.

# Types of Hair Color

## 3. *Demi-Permanent* (*Oxidative Deposit-Only*)



- Process falls between the semi-permanent and permanent dye process.
- Uses a catalyst such as a 10% mild peroxide developer with a **non-ammonia alkali to swell the cuticle**, allow dye molecules to *penetrate* into the cortex and deposit color *inside* the hair shaft.
- **A neutral or slightly acid after-rinse is used to stop the alkaline swelling reaction**, allow the cuticle to close, and trap the color molecules inside.
- The mild chemical reaction does not lighten the melanin and hardly changes the hair structure.

## **Chemicals of Concern**

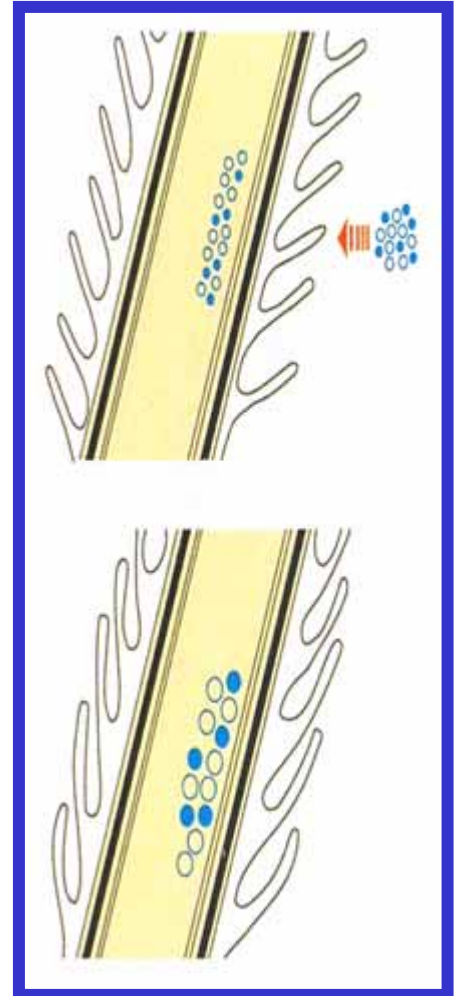
### ***Demi-Permanent - Oxidative Deposit-Only***

- **Uses mostly aniline derivative dyes.**
- **The alkali (high pH) used to swell the cuticle is from either monoethanolamine (MEA) or amino methyl propanol (AMP).**
- **MEA is a pH adjuster that can release nitrosamines which cause cancer in animals and can cause severe eye irritation in humans.**

# Types of Hair Color

## 4. *Permanent - Oxidative/Lift Deposit*

- **An alkaline reaction causes the cuticle to swell**, allowing hydrogen peroxide and dye to enter.
- The hydrogen peroxide “*oxidizes*” (diffuses) the melanin, and “*lifts*” (lightens) the color.
- The hydrogen peroxide also causes the dye to “*develop*” and “*deposit*” color.
- **A neutral or slightly acid after-rinse stops the alkaline reaction**, allows the cuticle to close, and traps the color molecules inside.



# Types of Hair Color

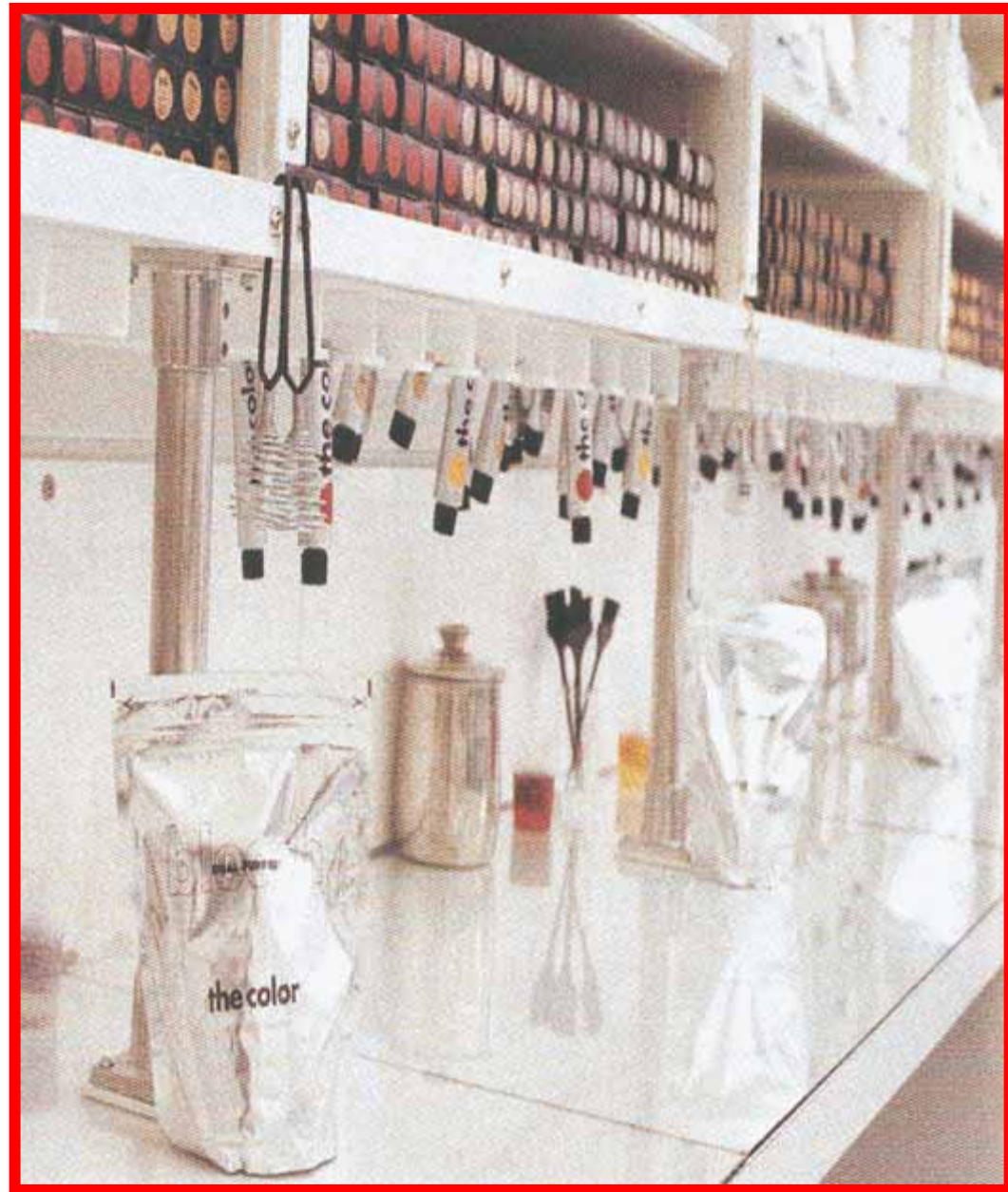
## *4. Permanent - Oxidative/Lift Deposit*

- Made from Aniline Derivative Tints.
- These haircolors have the smallest molecule which makes it easier for them to penetrate the hair shaft and the scalp.
- This process has the greatest impact on the hair structure, which is permanently changed, and the cuticle remains slightly shifted.
- Formulas can have ranges of:
  - Phenyldiamine .08% to 6%
  - Hydrogen Peroxide 3 – 10% 20 – 40%

# Chemicals of Concern

## *Permanent Hair Dyes*

- **Ammonia**
- **Resorcinol**





# Types of Hair Color

## *5. Permanent - Non-Oxidative*

### *Vegetable Tints*

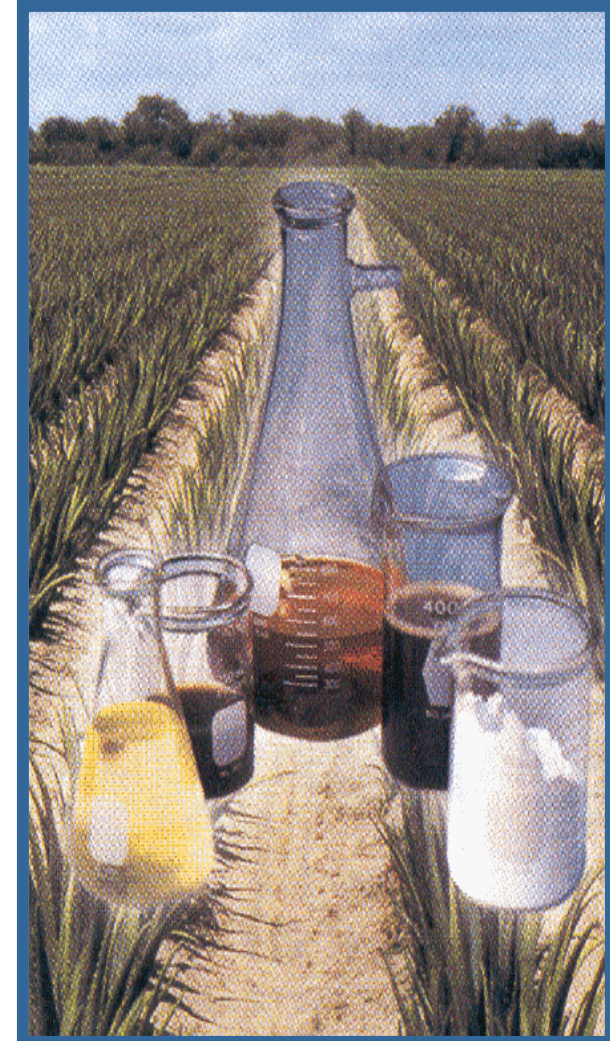
- Made from plant materials and henna
- Builds up layers in hair shaft

### *Metallic Dyes*

- Contain metallic salts from lead acetate, lead, copper, cobalt, silver nitrate
- Not used professionally

### *Compound Dyes*

- Mix of vegetative tints and metallic dyes
- Not used professionally



# **Problems With Metallic Dyes**

## *Permanent - Non-Oxidative*

- **Can cause headaches, scalp irritation, facial swelling, contact dermatitis, lead poisoning, and hair breakage.**
- **Swallowing dye can make you very sick and in some cases, kill you.**
- **Can buildup in hair and cause adverse reactions with the oxidation process in subsequent hair processing.**
- **Bottles of metallic dyes can explode.**

***Problems With  
Permanent - Non-Oxidative***

***Problems With Vegetable Tints:***

***Henna – can trigger asthma and  
other allergic reactions***

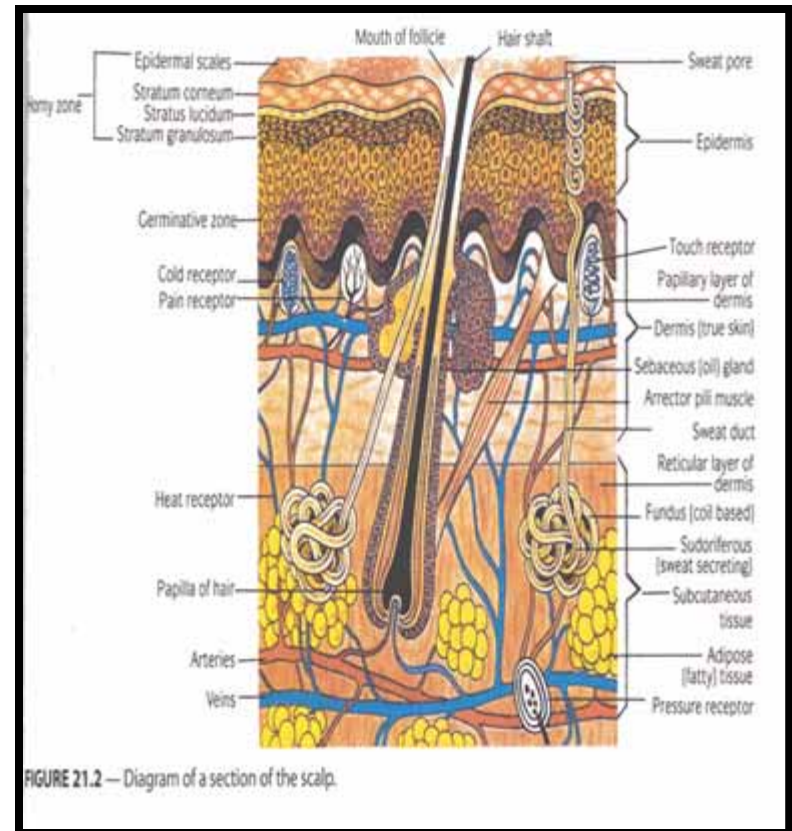
***Problems with Compound Dyes:***

***Henna and other vegetable tints can be  
combined with Metallic Salts***

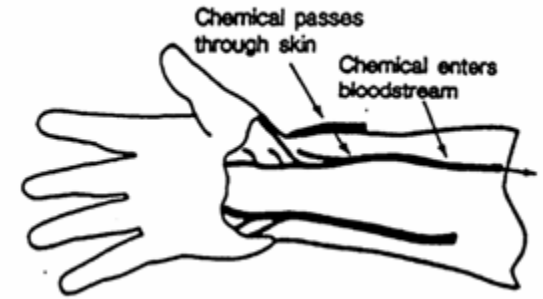
# How Can the Haircoloring Products *Enter the Body?*

## *Through the Scalp into the Bloodstream*

- It has the richest blood supply in the body.
- It has the largest hair follicles in the body.
- It has a large number of sweat glands.
- It is a large surface area.



# How Can Dyes *Enter the Body?*



*The absence of sebaceous glands and the horny surface of the hands makes them less able to absorb the dye molecules*

**Wear appropriate gloves during dye:**

- **mixing**
- **application**
- **removal**



**Nitrile gloves are the best and vinyl would be the next choice.**

# Protecting Your Respiratory System



*Particulates*  
powder from:  
dyes, henna,  
and other  
products to be  
mixed

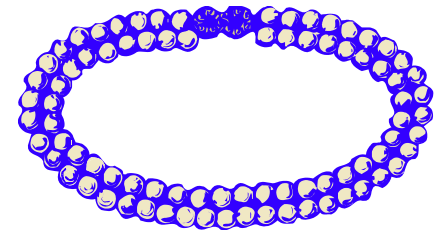
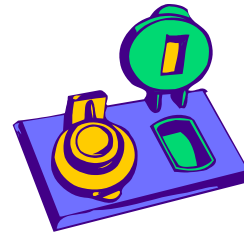
# *Examining Your Client*

- Give *Patch Test* 48 hours before the dye service with aniline dyes.
- Examine scalp for abrasions, irritations, or eruptions.
- Perform a strand test.



# Preparing Your Client

- Ask client to remove glasses, contact lenses, necklaces and earrings.
- Give client a tint cape and a towel.
- Apply a barrier cream around hairline and over ears.

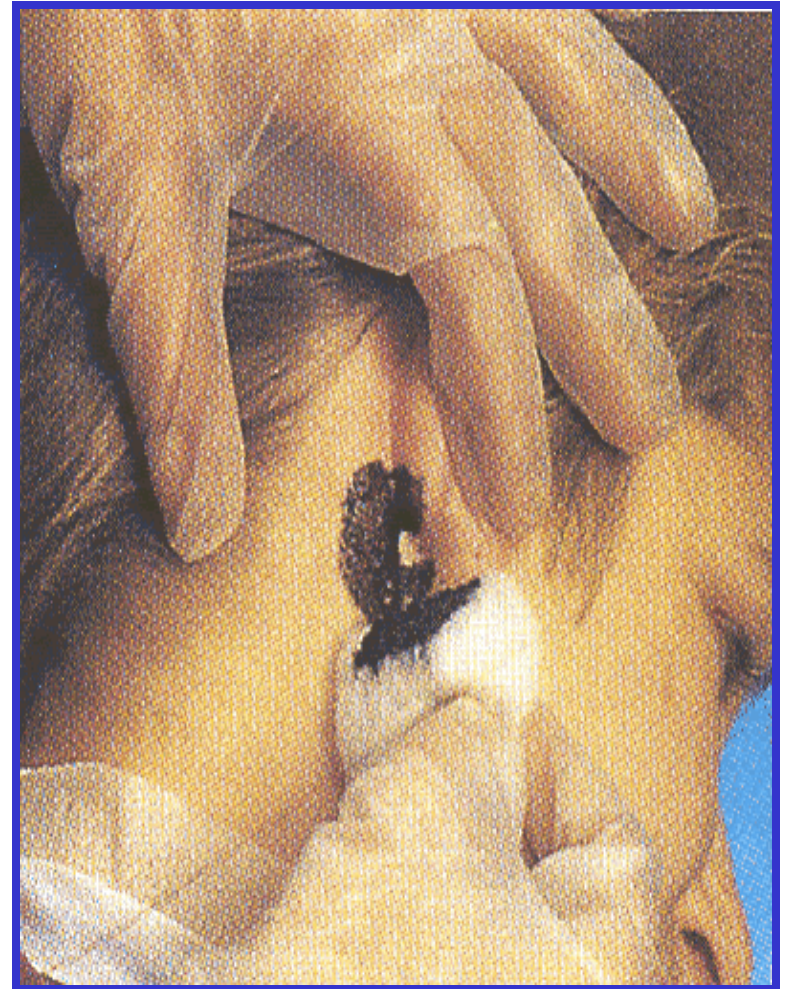




# Protecting Your Client

*Do not use an aniline derivative tint if client has:*

- A positive patch test for allergy to aniline derivative tints.
- Scalp abrasions, irritations or eruptions.
- Contagious scalp disorders.
- Presence of metallic or compound dyes.



# Protecting Your Client

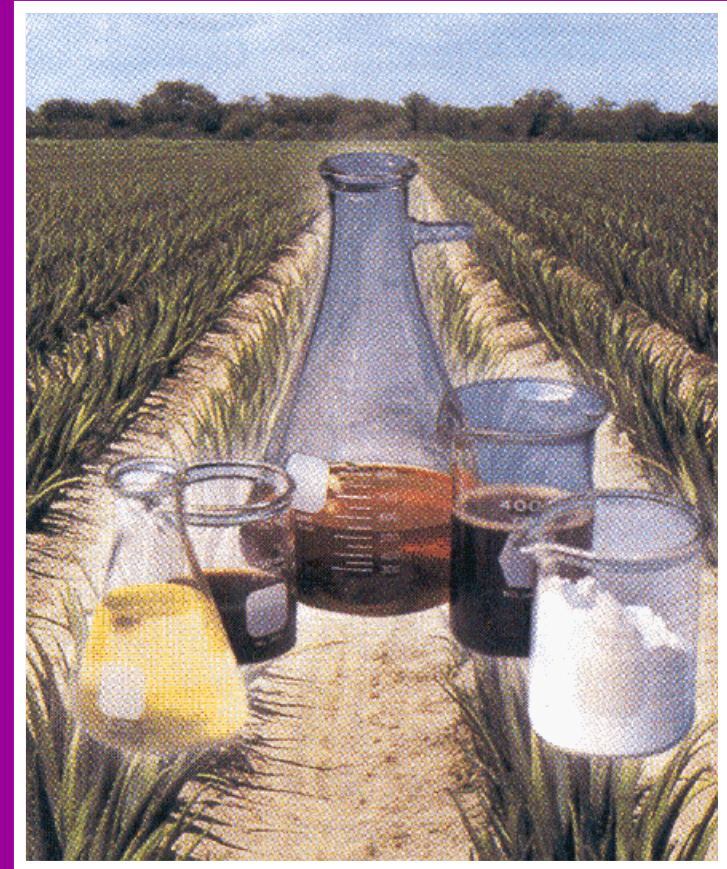
## *Aniline Derivative Tint Solution*



**Do not use on the eyelashes or the eyebrows,  
can cause blindness.**

# Alternative Products and Processes

- Try plant derived dyes:
  - Henna (triggers asthma)
  - Chamomile for lightening
  - Saffron
  - Beet juice
- Use semi-permanent dyes without:
  - Ammonia
  - Resorcinol

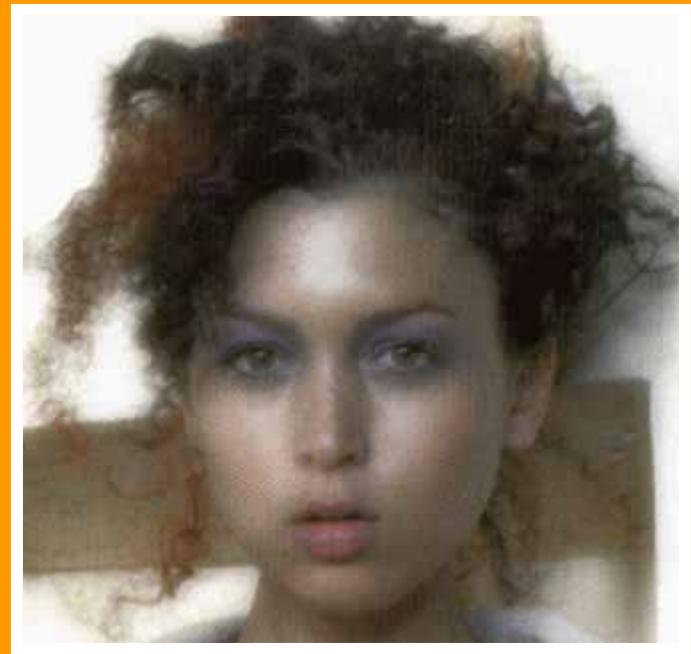


# *Alternative Coloring Processes*

- **Try bleaching or blonding instead of dying darker.**



- **Highlight instead of dying entire head.**



- **Darken some gray hair.**