



- Originally, the Skin Cancer Foundation stated the LED lamps “are not dangerous.” We don’t think they are “dangerous” either, however, we do acknowledge they emit UVA radiation which is a major contributor to the premature aging of the skin.
- After bringing this to the attention of Dr. Elizabeth Hale, the Vice President of the Skin Cancer Foundation, we were finally able to convince them their original statement was “misleading.”
- The Skin Cancer Foundation did, in fact, acknowledge the LED lamps do emit UVA light and that this light contributes to the premature aging of the skin.
- We were not successful in convincing them to not recommend sunscreen, even though we provided them plenty of proof sunscreen is not a viable option.
- The Skin Cancer Foundation collects \$10,000 per year to endorse sunscreen companies that meet their criteria for being effective in the sun.
- We are hoping they can eventually agree with the industries determination that sunscreen can and will interfere with the gel polish properly curing causing all sort of harmful effects for the consumer.
- We are confidently optimistic because we certain of the Skin Cancer Foundation’s devotion to protecting our skin!



The Skin Cancer Foundation's Position Regarding UVR-Emitting Nail Lamps

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New York, NY (March 7, 2013) - Research has shown that ultraviolet (UV) radiation-emitting devices are carcinogenic to humans. Although studies have shown that the skin cancer risk associated with UVR-emitting nail lamps for gel manicures is very low, it is not insignificant*. The risk, according to anecdotal research, is greatest for squamous cell carcinoma (SCC), the second most common skin cancer. An estimated 700,000 cases of SCC are diagnosed each year in the US, resulting in approximately 2,500 deaths. SCC is mainly caused by chronic UV exposure and is very common on the hands and around the fingernails. If you must get a UV-gel manicure, The Skin Cancer Foundation recommends applying sunscreen to your hands beforehand. You can protect your hands from skin cancer, as well as wrinkles, brown spots and other signs of aging, by applying a moisturizing sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher to your hands at least every two hours throughout the day.

Elizabeth K. Hale, MD

Vice President, The Skin Cancer Foundation

* Typically, UVR-emitting nail lamps are used to set gel manicures. Some nail lamps emit LED light, which is not dangerous. If you are not sure which type of nail lamp your salon uses, ask your nail technician. You can play it safe by letting your nails air dry naturally, or using a nail dryer with a fan (without the light component).

**ORIGINAL
STATEMENT**

The Skin Cancer Foundation [EIN: 13-2948778] is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.



The Skin Cancer Foundation's Official Position on UV Light and Manicure Safety

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New York, NY (UPDATED September 1, 2015) - Ultraviolet radiation-emitting nail lamps have become a regular part of most trips to the nail salon, causing many patrons to question manicure safety. These lamps are typically used to speed-dry regular manicures, and they are actually *necessary* to set gel manicures. Some nail lamps are called "UV" lamps, and some are called LED lamps, but *both* emit UV radiation. They predominantly produce UVA rays, which have been linked to both premature skin aging and skin cancer. **However, even the most intense of these devices presents only a moderate UV risk – a far lower risk than that presented by UV tanning devices.** To play it safe with gel manicures, The Skin Cancer Foundation recommends applying a broad spectrum (UVA/UVB) sunscreen to hands 20 minutes prior to UV light exposure. If getting a regular manicure, the safest bet is to allow nails to air-dry naturally, avoiding the drying lamps altogether. Remember, all nail lamps produce UV radiation.

**REVISED
STATEMENT**

--Skin Cancer Foundation Vice President Elizabeth K. Hale, MD

About The Skin Cancer Foundation

The Skin Cancer Foundation is the only global organization solely devoted to the prevention, early detection and treatment of skin cancer. The mission of the Foundation is to decrease the incidence of skin cancer through public and professional education and research. Since its inception in 1979, the Foundation has recommended following a complete sun protection regimen that includes seeking shade and covering up with clothing, including a wide-brimmed hat and UV-blocking sunglasses, in addition to daily sunscreen use. For more information, visit SkinCancer.org.