



NOTED AND QUOTED

Dermatologists in the News

In a January 2011 *Daily News* article, **Dr. Richard Mizuguchi** of St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital and **Doris Day** of Lenox Hill Hospital discussed the possibility of using Latisse to cure baldness. Approved by the US Food and Drug Administration in 2008, Latisse is a topical treatment used to grow and darken eyelashes. Allergan, Inc, the makers of Latisse, are making plans to test the drug on men with moderate male-pattern baldness and women who have moderate female-pattern hair loss. **Dr. Mizuguchi** commented on the study saying that, "It's actually really exciting. It's been talked about forever but they're not having been any new topical medications for a long time." While Latisse can cause itching, redness, and eye irritation, **Dr. Mizuguchi** states that the medication has no systemic side effects. **Dr. Day** also commented saying that the clinical trial, "...the most high quality trial you could possibly have. They're randomizing the doctor so that neither the treating physician nor the patient knows what they are getting." She also noted that the treatment may work best when combined with other medications that are already on the market and that hair-growth treatments are most effective in people who aren't completely bald. "Hair-growth medication is best when you haven't lost your hair yet. It is harder to try to fix it after the fact," she said. **Dr. Mizuguchi** goes on to talk about one drawback, the fact that Latisse is notably expensive. It can cost \$120 per bottle, "And that's for a tiny bottle. For someone with a large bald spot on the scalp, you probably couldn't afford it unless you were a millionaire," said **Dr. Mizuguchi**.

In a February 2011 online article posted on Self.com, **Dr. James Spencer** is called upon to help dispute claims made by supermodel Gisele Bündchen. In a press

conference to promote her new line of natural sun care products, Ms. Bündchen remarked that sunscreens made with synthetic ingredients are "poison." In the article, **Dr. Spencer** refutes the comment stating that she probably got her information from a skewed report released by the Environmental Working Group. The organization made waves by reporting that 41% of sunscreens contain a hazardous form of vitamin A, retinyl palmitate. The derivative was cited as causing increased development of tumors and lesions when exposed to the sun. **Dr. Spencer** notes that, "The Environmental Working Group found the study from 10 years ago used to make this particular claim... There are 100 other studies that say the opposite, that vitamin A derivatives can actually prevent cancer." **Dr. Spencer** also said that most sunscreens do not contain retinyl palmitate at all. In addition, **Dr. Spencer** said that the "natural" sunscreen is superior to the synthetic one.

The *New York Times* featured **Dr. Mitchel Goldman** in a February 2011 news article, "Tattoos as Makeup? Read the Fine Print." The piece was on the dangers of having tattoos applied as permanent makeup. The procedure was originally developed to address hair loss, specifically eyebrows, associated with alopecia. Now, permanent makeup, also known as micropigmentation or cosmetic tattooing, has become the answer to a number of disease related issues. Cancer patients and burn victims often seek micropigmentation, as well as arthritis patients and people with Parkinson's disease who have difficulty applying traditional makeup. One California woman sought **Dr. Goldman** for medical attention after having permanent makeup applied to her lips and eyes. **Dr. Goldman** administered 6 treatments costing

about \$10,000 to reverse the damage. **Dr. Goldman** specializes in laser removal of tattoos, and he has seen a number of patients with complications due to permanent makeup. "I've had patients who have infections on their lips and eyebrows because these tattoo artists are totally not regulated," **Dr. Goldman** said. He also adds that, "They use equipment that's not sterile. A lot of infections also come from the tap water. They dip their needles in and transfer infections. The pigment goes to lymph nodes. Who knows if 20 years down the line patients will have lymphoma or cancer because of carcinogens in tattoo pigment." **Dr. Goldman** also states in the article that he would like to see more regulation from the US Food and Drug Administration to prevent complications related to permanent makeup.

Dr. Nicholas Perricone appeared on The Dr. Oz Show to talk about dermal fillers and micropigmentation (DMAE). **Dr. Perricone** told Dr. Oz that, "When you get a treatment, there's an instant change. You will see an increase in radiance and increase in skin tone. It's not a gimmick." **Dr. Perricone** is a board certified dermatologist, who developed his own line of antiaging skin care products, most of which include DMAE as an active ingredient. In a February CBS news article posted on their Web site, **Dr. Zoe Draelos** refutes **Dr. Perricone's** claim that DMAE is a potent antiaging remedy. "The bottom line is that it is a marginally valuable compound. The effect wears off very quickly." **Dr. Draelos** goes on to explain that little research has been done on DMAE and that, "It's never been tested in a large study."

CBS News featured **Dr. Jennifer Ashton** in a February online article. The article discussed a segment of "The Early Show" in which **Dr. Ashton**, who serves

Do Not Copy

