

Policy Interventions to Limit or Ban Sunbed Use

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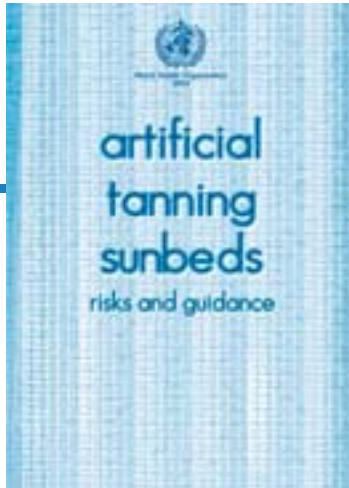
Radiation Programme

Department of Public Health, Environmental and Social Determinants of Health

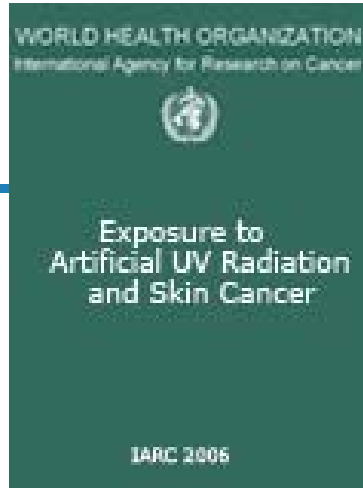
World Health Organization (WHO)

Geneva, Switzerland





2003



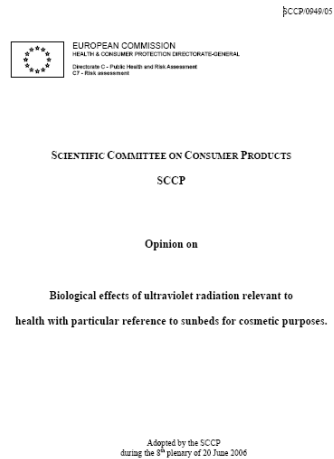
2006



2009/2012

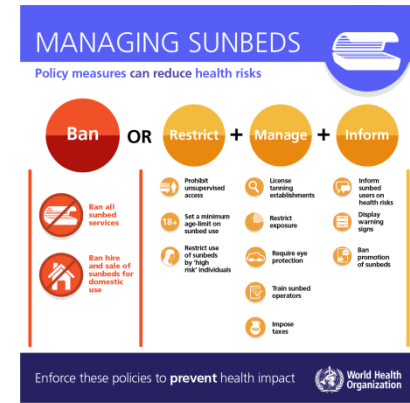
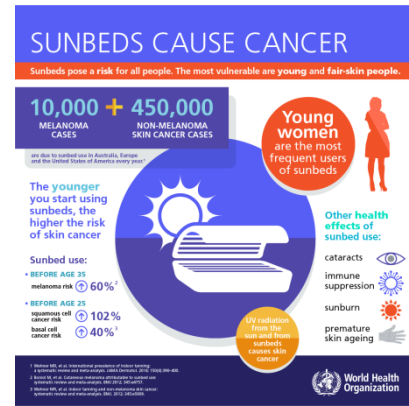


2017



New WHO publication

21 June 2017



Global Health Observatory data repository

By category: Public health and environment > Ultraviolet (UV) radiation > Legislation of artificial tanning sunbeds

Existence of sunbed regulations
Data by country

filter table | reset table
Last updated: 2017-06-21

Download filtered data as: CSV table | XML (simple) | JSON (simple)
Download complete data set as: CSV table | Excel | CSV list | more...

Country	Existence of national regulation ¹		Year of national implementation ¹		Existence of subnational regulation ¹	
	2017		2017		2017	
Argentina	No				Yes ¹	
Australia	No				Yes ¹	Yes ¹
Austria	Yes ¹		1995		No	
Bahrain	No				No	
Belgium	Yes ¹		2017		No	

www.who.int/uv

Health consequences from sunbed use



SUNBEDS CAUSE CANCER

Sunbeds pose a risk for all people. The most vulnerable are **young** and **fair-skin** people.

10,000 + 450,000
MELANOMA CASES NON-MELANOMA SKIN CANCER CASES

are due to sunbed use in Australia, Europe and the United States of America every year.¹

The **younger** you start using sunbeds, the higher the risk of skin cancer





Sunbed use:

- **BEFORE AGE 35**
melanoma risk \uparrow **60%**²
- **BEFORE AGE 25**
squamous cell cancer risk \uparrow **102%**
basal cell cancer risk \uparrow **40%**³

Young women are the most frequent users of sunbeds



Other health effects of sunbed use:

- cataracts 
- immune suppression 
- sunburn 
- premature skin ageing 

UV radiation from the sun and from sunbeds causes skin cancer

¹ Wehner MR, et al. International prevalence of indoor tanning: a systematic review and meta-analysis. JAMA Dermatol. 2014; 150(4):390-400.

² Bonloli M, et al. Cutaneous melanoma attributable to sunbed use: systematic review and meta-analysis. BMJ 2012; 345:e4757.

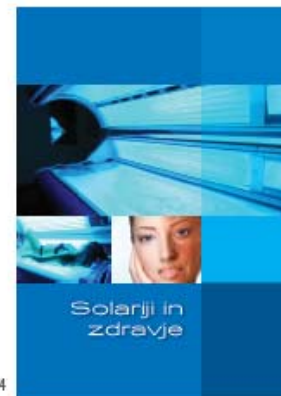
³ Wehner MR, et al. Indoor tanning and non-melanoma skin cancer: systematic review and meta-analysis. BMJ. 2012; 345:e5909.



World Health Organization

Policy options to decrease health risks from sunbeds

- Promoting education strategies



- (1) United States of America Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
- (2) and (3) Cancer Research UK;
- (4) Slovenian Institute of Non-Ionizing Radiation (INIS);
- (5) Greek Atomic Energy Commission.

Policy options to decrease health risks from sunbeds (2)

- Regulating sunbed use
 - Most countries characterize sunbeds as consumer products rather than medical devices, so specific legislation may be required to regulate their sale or use
- Artificial tanning devices fall under two separate industries:
 - the tanning equipment industry (sale and manufacture of sunbeds), and
 - the commercial provision of tanning services (access to sunbeds in tanning establishments, fitness studios, hotels)



MANAGING SUNBEDS



Policy measures can reduce health risks

- **Brazil (2009)**
- **Australia (2016)**

MANAGING SUNBEDS



Policy measures can reduce health risks


Ban



**Ban all
sunbed
services**



**Ban hire
and sale of
sunbeds for
domestic
use**

- 
- A black and white photograph of a park bench in a field. The bench is in the foreground, and a large, bright, rectangular screen or projection is visible in the background, displaying a list of bullet points. The scene is set in a dark, open field under a light sky.
- **Public health financing considerations**
 - **Commercial considerations**
 - **Human rights implications and ethical considerations**
 - **Priority areas for research**