

Eczema in short

Hairdressers have the highest risk of occupational dermatitis. It's usually developed early in their careers.

Prevention is possible through education

- Glove Use
- · Cut before coloring
- Managing chemistry

Proposal for new initiatives

- Education also of independent hairdressers and cosmeticians
- Campaigns
- Better regulation of allergenic substances in the work environment

Education

makes a difference

A phd-study (2008-2010) showed that hairdressing apprentices, educated in chemical work environment had significant less eczema compared to a control group, who did not receive the same education

Anne Bregnhøj et al. 2008

Eczema starts early

A Swedish survey asking 5034 hairdressers, educated from 1970-1995

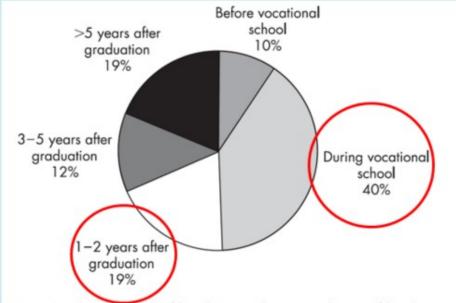


Figure 1 The proportion of hairdressers who reported onset of hand eczema during different time periods.

Dermatitis can look like this

Irritative contact dermatitis

Main reasons

- Wet work in more than 2 h/day
- Improper use of gloves

Allergic contact dermatitis

Main reasons

Direct skin contact to allergenic substances



Symptoms

- Redness
- Flaky skin
- Fissures
- Blisters
- Swelling
- Itchiness







Wet work is a risk factor

- Through frequent contact with water, the skin degreases and dehydrates further slowly but surely.
- The barrier function of the skin decreases by this dehydration.
- On a dry 'cracking' skin eczema will easier strike.
- Irritating or allergy-causing substances will penetrate easily deep into the skin and cause an inflammatory reaction.

Approximately half of all hairdressers with hand dermatitis got it because of wet work

Hairdressing is wet work

The longer you are exposed to wet work the higher the risk of being sensitized and develop hand eczema

Table 2. Description of the occurrence of potential risk factors for hand eczema among 2918 trained hairdressers (125 men and 2793 women) who answered a postal questionnaire

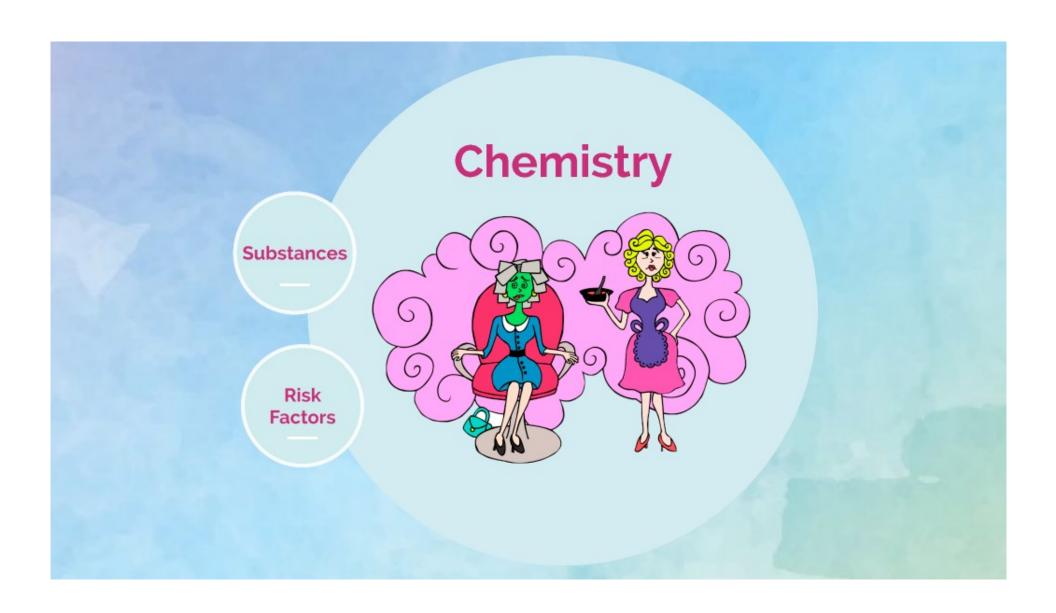
	Male hairdressers Total (%)	Female hairdressers Total (%)	All hairdressers Total (%)
Wet hands			
Question: On any normal day at work: for how long are your hands wet? Include cutting of wet hair, washing hair, washing dishes, cleaning in the salon, etc. Please tick one box only	n = 125 (100)	n = 2771 (100)	n = 2896 (100)
Never	0 (0)	3 (0.1)	3 (0.1)
Less than half an hour a day	10 (8.0)	55 (2.0)	65 (2.2)
½−1 hr a day	8 (6.4)	111 (4.0)	119 (4.1)
More than 1 hr but less than 2 hr a day	9 (7.2)	194 (7.0)	203 (7.0)
2-3 hr a day	21 (16.8)	464 (16.7)	485 (16.8)
More than 3 hr but less than 4 hr a day	25 (20.0)	431 (15.6)	456 (15.8)
4 hr or more a day	52 (41.6)	1513 (54.6)	1565 (54.0)

Best practises

- 'Wet work' must be restricted by reducing working with fluids (both water and cosmetics) to a maximum of 30 minutes per hour.
- While washing hair it is advisable to always use gloves. In this way, direct wet contact will be avoided.
- Wearing gloves is recommended up to four hours per day and avoid reuse.
- Cut before coloring







Chemical substances are risk factors

- Hair color: PPD (P-phenyleendiamine) and resorcinol
- Bleaching agents: Persulfates (also named Ammonium persulfate)
- Perm liquids: Glyceryl thioglycolate and ammonium thioglycolate
- Shampoo, styling and numerous products: Perfumes and preservatives (such as Kathon CG and formaldehyde)
- Gloves: Latex and rubber chemicals
- Metals: Nickel
- Hair color and bleaching agents are the two most common work related allergens in hairdressers (10% of all tested hairdressers)







Multiple risk factors for hand eczema





Gloves

Line up

Gloves

Think of your own practice as hairdresser or the practice of the hairdresser cutting and styling your hair. Is the practice:

A. to use gloves for all wet work
B. to use gloves for some wet work, for instance when applying colour
C. never to use gloves

Gloves are prevention

A glove is not a glove

Use

- It is recommended hairdresser to use NITRIL gloves
- · Select a 'thick' glove

 use cotton gloves underneath to keep the skin dry

Don't use

- invisible gloves (cream)
- · rubber gloves
- latex gloves

they can all give allergic reactions



Gloves are effective prevention

Use gloves when

- · Washing hair
- Mixing hair color or other products
- Applying hair color or other products
- Never use the same gloves again
- Cut before coloring







https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CQ_2Y6yAB9w



