

## PRODUCT NOTES



*Neutrogena's Ultra-Sheer Dry-Touch, containing oxybenzone, ranked low in a recent safety study, while its zinc- and titanium-based Pure & Free baby scored higher. Neither was among the top recommended products.*

.....

## New Sunscreen Study Identifies Safer Lotions

**A**ccording to a study of 2,073 sunscreens by the Environmental Working Group ([www.ewg.org](http://www.ewg.org)), two product trends bear watching: the appearance of some sunscreens with mega-ratings of SPF 55 or higher; and a shift away from oxybenzone, a product found in many of the products *PS* tested in 2007.

According to the EWG, sunscreens with high sun protection factors (SPF 55-100) block only 1 to 2 percent more UVB radiation than SPF 30. They also require two to three more times the ingredients, some of which may be absorbed into the body.

The study also noted a big drop in products containing oxybenzone, a hormone disrupter that can be absorbed by the skin.

The EWG could not find evidence that effective physical blockers zinc and titanium could be absorbed through healthy skin, concluding that "on balance, zinc and titanium-based formulations are among the safest, most effective sunscreens on the market, based on available evidence."