

Nickel may be released from iPhone® 5

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Despite political intentions to limit nickel release from mobile phones (1), excessive nickel release from mobile phones remains frequent. Hence, up to one-quarter of mobile phones currently for sale in Denmark show positive dimethylglyoxime (DMG) test results in repeated market surveys (2–4). It is of concern that even the very expensive and recently released iPhone® 5 (Apple®) also releases excessive amounts of nickel, as shown by a positive DMG test result (Fig. 1). We encourage consumers

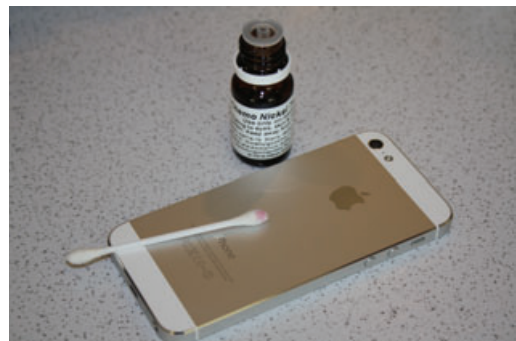


Fig. 1. Positive dimethylglyoxime (DMG) test reaction indicating excessive nickel release from iPhone 5.

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and clinicians to evaluate nickel release from metallic components of mobile phones with the DMG test when relevant. In the case of a positive DMG test result, the use

of a protective casing can be considered to prevent nickel exposure.

References

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