

Industry Bulletin - Eyelash and Eyebrow Tinting

The Board of Barbering and Cosmetology has been advised that eyelash and brow tinting products that contain silver-nitrate are permitted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) pursuant to [Title 21 Chapter I Subchapter A Part 73 Subpart C § 73.2550](#).

Only silver-nitrate based products for eyelash and brow services are compliant with the FDA requirements at this time.

Per the FDA, the following are requirements of compliant eyelash and brow tint products:

Uses and restrictions. The color additive silver nitrate may be safely used in externally applied professional-use only cosmetics intended to impart color to the eyebrows and eyelashes subject to the following restrictions:

- (1) The amount of silver nitrate in the cosmetic product shall not be more than 4 percent by weight.
- (2) The viscosity of the cosmetic formulation shall be not less than 120 Pascal-seconds (Pa·s) and not more than 180 Pa·s at normal temperature and pressure.
- (3) The cosmetic containing silver nitrate is not intended for use on persons under the age of 16.
- (4) Application of the cosmetic containing silver nitrate is not intended to exceed 1 minute and is intended to be followed by immediate removal.
- (5) The cosmetic containing silver nitrate is applied by a professional.
- (6) The cosmetic containing silver nitrate is not distributed or directly sold to consumers.

The label of any cosmetic containing the color additive silver nitrate, in addition to other information required by law, shall contain the following statements:

"Contains silver nitrate. Silver nitrate may permanently stain skin with which it comes into contact. Silver nitrate may irritate the eyes. For application by professionals only for dyeing eyebrows and eyelashes, in accordance with the directions for use. Not for use on persons under the age of 16. Apply to eyebrows and eyelashes for no more than 1 minute, followed by immediate removal. Rinse eyes immediately if product comes into contact with them. Consult a physician if any irritation persists. Not for distribution or direct sale to consumers."

The Board does not approve products or manufacturers, therefore we encourage you to contact the manufacturer to determine if their product is FDA compliant.