A Questionnaire on Pigmented Disorders and Use of Whitening Cosmetics in Japanese Women

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Abstract

Pigmented disorders including melasma, senile lentigo, and freckles are recognized as major skin problems in most Japanese women, so a questionnaire survey was conducted in order to clarify the actual conditions of hyperpigmentation, usage intention and expectations for whitening cosmetics. An investigation was carried out on women over the wide ranges of age. Our results showed that hyperpigmentation is regarded as a significant cosmetic problem in all ages of women. They also showed that whitening cosmetics are widely used as a treatment for hyperpigmentation. Furthermore, whitening cosmetics are expected not only to have a preventative function, but are also to improve pigmentation.

Key words: whitening, pigmentation, skin problem.