

Women's Wednesday | The new sunscreen advantage



WASHINGTON ([DC News Now](#)) — It's considered magic in a bottle. It can prevent cancer and ward off wrinkles. It's sunscreen — and for the first time in roughly 25 years, the FDA has approved a new ingredient that both sun worshipers and doctors are celebrating.

Dermatologist Dr. Neelam Vashi, from the [Dermatology Institute of Boston](#), explained that the new ingredient, Bemotrizinol (BEMT), is described as a broad-spectrum sunscreen filter.

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"It has been used safely and effectively in Europe, Asia, and Australia for more than 20 years. It protects against both UVA rays, which contribute to skin aging, and UVB rays, which cause sunburns," Vashi described.

Vashi also talked about the many reasons the medical community and cosmetic companies are so excited about Bemotrizinol.

"First, it provides excellent UVA protection. UVA rays penetrate deeper into the skin and are major contributors to wrinkles, uneven skin tone, hyperpigmentation, dark spots, and other signs of photoaging. Second, it is highly photostable, meaning it remains effective when exposed to sunlight and does not break down as easily as some older sunscreen ingredients. Third, it can help manufacturers create lighter, more elegant sunscreen formulations. This may improve daily use because people are more likely to wear sunscreen consistently when it feels comfortable and blends well into the skin."

But the biggest benefit Vashi shared is simply having more options, which ultimately helps reduce UV damage and skin cancer risks.

Watch the full conversation to learn more.

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