Introduction

The Sun Awareness Campaign, in its second round, was launched in May and June 2002, at the request of the Pharmaceutical Development Department of the General Council of Pharmaceutical Associations of Spain (COFESP). The campaign was aimed at raising awareness among the general public of the need to protect the skin from ultraviolet radiation, and the importance of using sunscreen lotion. It is important to note that the main target was children.

Methods

In this Sun Prevention Centres, pharmacists measure the level of skin moisture of the population; they also calculate the SPF value of the sunscreen lotions. The centres have worked with outside units to travel to 19 towns in Spain during the months of May and June of 2002. The Sun Awareness Campaign is now in its fourth round. Among the collaborating bodies, we find Vichy Laboratories, the General Council of Pharmaceutical Associations, the Department of Health and the National Dermopharmacy Board. The Spanish Council of Pharmacists also contributed to its funding. For the SPF against UVB and UVA, we used two brands (Vichy Laboratoires, allowing for a total of 1,440 questionnaires). The pharmacists chose either SPF25 (indicating a 25% sun screen protection factor), or SPF50 (indicating a 50% sun screen protection factor), and professionals answered any questions they may have had about the use of sunscreen.

Findings

In the campaign "Sun, skin and photo-protection", 1337 pharmacists from 49 provinces have taken part.

In the "Education Campaign "Sun, skin and photo-protection", carried out by the pharmacy professionals (EDUFAR), it has been confirmed that there is a great interest on the population. Great interest is on the population.

In the campaign "Sun, skin and photo-protection", 1337 pharmacists from 49 provinces have taken part. A number of 1000 teachers have contributed with 3000 students for the survey.

The campaign "Sun, skin and photo-protection", has been considered of public health interest by the Department of Health, during its second round. Among the collaborating bodies, we find Vichy Laboratories, the General Council of Pharmaceutical Associations, the Department of Health, and the National Dermopharmacy Board.

Regarding the awareness of the need of the adequate behaviour for sun exposure, we can observe a significant rise, especially concerning the group of population from 18 to 34 years of age. For educational purposes, a questionnaire is used to evaluate the results. There is an area of knowledge concerning photo-protection. Further tests do not show the students at the end of the campaign, through which we evaluate the role of the pharmacists as a support in the awareness and thinking about sun exposure and photo-protection.

Change in sun exposure habits.

Great interest is on the population. Great interest is on the population.

In the Sun Awareness Campaign, the Prevention Centres have achieved the following objectives:

- An increase in the level of awareness among the parents.
- Greater interest in the protection of children.
- An increase in skin protection amongst the population.
- An increase in the number of people using sun protection products.