

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COSMETIC CREAMS

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3 Claims. (Cl. 167-91)

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This invention relates to cosmetic creams of the emulsion type.

Cosmetic creams usually comprise an aqueous emulsion of oleaginous material, such as fats, oils, waxes, fatty alcohols and the like. Various perfumes, antiseptics and medicinal agents are usually added to the emulsion. Cosmetic creams are used, among other things, for smoothing and softening the skin and also for relieving chapped skin.

We have now found that if a small amount of a cholesteryl ether is added to a cosmetic cream the properties of the cream, insofar as it affects the skin, are considerably improved. With continued use of such creams containing a cholesteryl ether the skin becomes much softer and smoother than when ordinary cosmetic creams are used. The effect is considerably more than that produced by ordinary cosmetic preparations.

Accordingly, a cosmetic cream in accordance with this invention includes from 0.1% to 8% of a cholesteryl ether.

It is believed that the marked improvement in the properties of a cosmetic cream containing a cholesteryl ether is due in part to the fact that the emulsifying action of the cholesteryl ether provides a particularly fine and effective dispersion of the droplets of oil and the like. Cholesteryl ethers appear to be particularly effective emulsifying agents for the oleaginous materials used in cosmetic creams. Furthermore, cholesterol type compounds are found in the human body and it is possible that the close relationship which exists between the cholesterol type of compounds found in the human body and the cholesteryl ethers included in the cosmetic creams of this invention assists in the assimilation of the preparation into the secretions of the sebaceous glands.

The preferred cholesteryl ether is dicholesteryl ether, which may be obtained as a by-product of the production of cholesterol from animal tissue such as the nervous system of cattle. The improvement in the cosmetic creams is noticeable with as little as 0.1% of dicholesteryl ether added to the cosmetic cream, and it is possible to add as much as 8% with advantage. However, due to the high cost of dicholesteryl ethers the economic range appears to be between 0.1% and 1% and normally the amount of dicholesteryl ether added rarely exceeds 1%.

It is not necessary for the dicholesteryl ether

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to be pure, and in actual practice dicholesteryl ether obtained from animal tissue is usually contaminated with other cholesterol derivatives which, however, do not detract from the effectiveness of the ether.

As illustrative of the invention, the fats, oils and waxes are heated and dicholesteryl ether, either alone or with other emulsifying agents, such as lecithine or cholesterol, is added to the hot liquid mixture. Water is heated to approximately the same temperature as the liquid oleaginous mixture, and the liquid of smaller volume is added to the liquid of larger volume with stirring. The mixture or stirring may be effected in any suitable apparatus, such as an emulsifier, homogeniser or colloid mill.

Examples of cosmetic creams in accordance with this invention are described below, but the application of the invention is not limited thereto. All parts are by weight in the examples.

Example 1.—Cold cream

	Parts
Bees wax	12
Spermacetti wax	8
Lanolin absorption base	18
Mineral oil (to be substituted wholly or partly by vegetable oils)	15
Petrolatum	5
Dicholesterylether	4
Perfume	1
Water	ad 100

Example 2.—Tissue cream

	Parts
Cocoa butter	4.5
Bees wax	12
Cetyl alcohol	4
Mineral oil	60
Lecithine	1
Cholesterol	2
Dicholesteryl ether	8
Preservative	0.2
Perfume	0.8
Water	ad 100

Example 3.—Tissue cream

	Parts
Lanolin	35
Petrolatum	43
Dicholesteryl ether	1
Spermacetti wax	5
Perfume	6
Water	ad 100

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Example 4.—Vanishing Cream

	Parts
Stearic acid.....	22
Cocoa butter.....	1
Potassium hydroxide.....	0.9
Mineral oil.....	2
Glycerine.....	10
Dicholesteryl ether.....	2
Perfume.....	0.6
Water.....ad.....	100

Example 5.—Powder base cream

	Parts
Glyceryl monostearate.....	12
Mineral oil.....	2
Glycerine.....	5
Spermacetti wax.....	5
Perfume.....	0.5
Dicholesteryl ether.....	0.5
Water.....ad.....	100

In any of the above examples the dicholesteryl ether can be replaced either by ethyl cholesteryl ether or by methyl cholesteryl ether.

Dicholesteryl ether possesses numerous advantages. It is itself a very efficient emulsifying agent and is also capable of changing and improving the properties of cholesterol as an emulsifying agent. Further, when both dicholesteryl ether and cholesterol are employed as emulsifying agents a smaller quantity is necessary than when cholesterol alone is employed. Cosmetic emulsions containing a cholesteryl ether improve the texture of the skin and induce smoothness

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thereof. When cosmetic creams made in accordance with this invention are rubbed into the skin they practically disappear leaving the skin soft and smooth.

This application is a continuation-in-part of our application Serial No. 695,810, dated September 9, 1946, now abandoned.

We claim:

1. Cosmetic cream comprising an emulsion of oleaginous and aqueous material, and from 0.1% to 8% of a cholesteryl ether.

2. Vanishing cream comprising an aqueous emulsion of stearic acid and from 0.1% to 1% of dicholesteryl ether.

3. Cosmetic cream comprising an aqueous emulsion of wax, fat and oil, and from 0.1% to 1% of dicholesteryl ether.

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