Media Release: Swisse response to “Pseudoporphyria following self-medication with chlorophyll” by Rossi et al. (2014)

Media Release
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At Swisse Wellness we are passionate about making people healthier and happier and our number one priority is to always put the consumer first.

We have recently been made aware of a paper “Pseudoporphyria following self-medication with chlorophyll” by Rossi et al. (2014) that describes two cases (case A and case B) of pseudoporphyria and a potential photosensitisation effect following the consumption of chlorophyll.(1)

Our Science and Regulatory Affairs team and our Scientific Advisory Panel have investigated the science and process of the paper and they have established the following.

In the brief report, Rossi et al conclude by reporting a “photosensitisation in humans caused by chlorophyll metabolites and documented significant side-effects of a commercial chlorophyll extract marketed as a dietary supplement.” Whilst informative, this conclusion is inappropriate, as the study does not accommodate some of the more commonly known factors that contribute to pseudoporphyria.

Without eliminating other potential confounding factors, a conclusion about what may have lead to the photosensitisation of the two reported cases should not be made. In addition to the evaluation of the paper, an exhaustive audit of all consumer feedback via the Swisse customer service feedback group, shows no reports regarding pseudoporphyria relating to any Swisse products.

For over 10 years, consumers have purchased and continue to purchase hundreds of thousands of units of Swisse Chlorophyll, which is a natural source of antioxidants and can be taken as part of a healthy lifestyle.

It also must be noted that chlorophyll is a food and, like all types of food, people can have rare, adverse reactions.
References