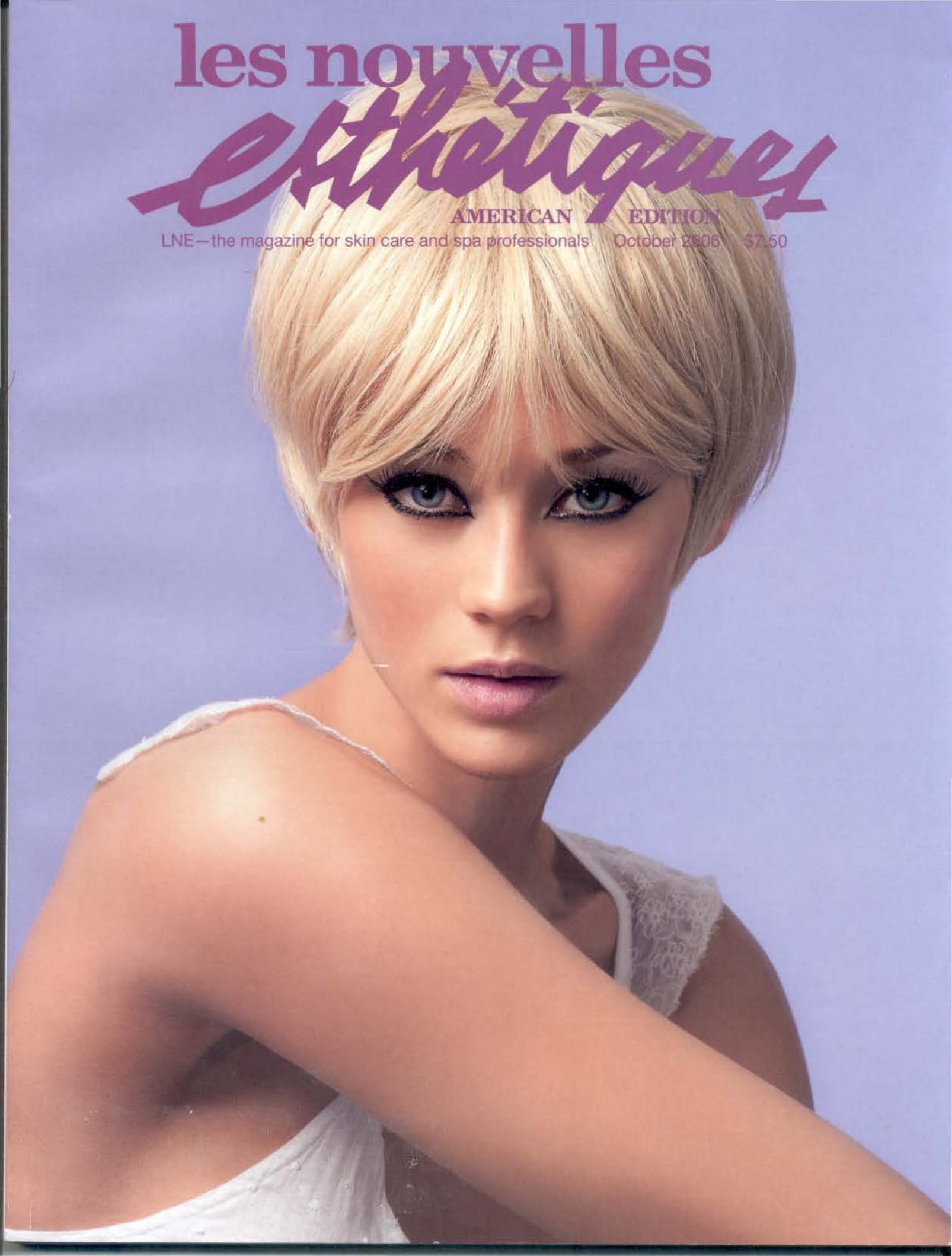


# les nouvelles *esthétiques*

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# medical | dermatology update

## Questions and Answers

### Hereditary melanoma

**Q:** Can someone be genetically predisposed to skin cancer?

**A:** Yes, while sun exposure is the leading cause of skin cancer, hereditary melanoma is an inherited condition that also increases one's risk of melanoma. This results from a gene mutation that can be inherited from either

FDA-approved sunblock that contains a new sunscreen ingredient, Mexoryl SX, that protects against UVB and more broadly into UVA spectrum. Up the Anti is another full-spectrum sunblock from Prescribed Solutions that is available in dermatology offices. It contains micronized zinc and iron oxides and titanium dioxide affording broad protection

Clients should always ask about infection control procedures before getting a tattoo.

the mother or father. Individuals who have a family history of melanoma or atypical moles may carry this gene mutation. Such individuals should be followed closely with skin exams every three to six months. It is also important for these individuals to limit sun exposure and use sunscreen, a wide-brimmed hat and protective clothing, as sun exposure also increases the risk of skin cancer in these predisposed individuals.

### New sunscreen ingredient

**Q:** What sunscreens do you recommend for daily wear?

**A:** It is important to choose a sunscreen that provides broad protection against UVA and UVB. The ability to protect against visible light can also be beneficial in some sun-induced skin conditions. Anthelios is a recently

against UVB and UVA rays along with visible light. Neutrogena's Ultra Sheer SPF 55 sunblock is an over-the-counter sunscreen that also protects broadly against UVB and UVA.

### Tattoo infections

**Q:** Is it possible to get a serious infection from tattooing?

**A:** Tattooing may introduce an infection if the procedure is not done with sterile equipment in a sterile environment. It is important that equipment disinfection and skin antisepsis be performed prior to any tattoo procedure. Infections can occur when tattooing equipment is contaminated by the tattooist or a previous client. There have been reports of hepatitis C infection, resistant staphylococcal bacterial infections, warts, and other viral and bacterial



photo: ©iStockphoto.com/Leigh Schindler

infections from tattooing. Patients considering a tattoo should seek a licensed practitioner and ask about infection control procedures.

### Botox for scar healing

**Q:** Can Botox be used for facial scar healing and minimizing?

**A:** Botox can be used to relax selective muscles lessening tension on an early scar. The use of Botox to decrease scarring is best performed several weeks prior to surgery since the maximal Botox effect occurs two weeks following injection. Botox is not likely to improve an old, established scar. **LM**

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