

# and in vitro UV-protection characteristics of clays traditionally used for sun protection in South Africa.

[Dlova NC](#), [Nevondo FT](#), [Mwangi EM](#), [Summers B](#), [Tsoka-Gwegweni J](#), [Martincigh BS](#),  
[Mulholland DA](#).

## Abstract

Clays have been used in southern Africa as photoprotectants by the indigenous people. Typically, two types of clay are used: one white in colour and the other red. In this work, the two clays were identified and characterized, and their in vitro SPF values measured. The clays afford a low SPF but offer broad-spectrum protection. No cutaneous side effects from the use of these clays are known. Further consideration should be given to the potential use of clays in sunscreen preparations.