|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Subject: **No Scents is Good Sense** | 7.5 |
| Date: September 30, 1998 | Supersedes: N/A |
| Approved By: Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee (JOH&SC) |

|  |
| --- |
| **General Statement** In response to concerns expressed by students and staff who experience respiratory and other health problems, the JOH&SC encourages the University Community to not wear perfume, scented hair spray, cologne, scented deodorant, aftershave or other scented products while on campus. Some facts to consider:  |

* Scented products contain chemicals which can cause serious problems (sore throat, runny nose, sinus congestion, shortness of breath, headache, dizziness, anxiety, anger, fatigue, mental confusion, inability to concentrate, irritability, nausea, and muscle pain) for many people, especially those with asthma, allergies and environmental illness.
* 15-25% of today's population have some type of respiratory problem that can be adversely affected by strong odours from scented products.
* 17% of Canadians suffer from migraine which can be triggered by strongly scented products.
* Approximately 4,000 chemicals are used to make fragrances, and several hundred can be used in a single product.
* Virtually no testing for neurotoxin effects is done on fragrant chemicals, although research on animals has produced severe health problems.

The University places the onus on individuals to realize the importance of choosing unscented products in creating a health environment for everyone.