

What are the foreign objects in the filtered shower head?

(Cantonese dialogue with English subtitles)

Video dialogue: Slowly turn the shower head back clockwise...
 Apart from cleaning strainer of water tap...

Woman A: This video says we should clean the strainers of our
 water taps regularly.
 Did you?

Woman B: Yea.
 I took the strainer out before,
 there were particulates accumulated.
 I asked the property management agent,
 they said it was OK.

Woman A: The filter cartridge of my newly replaced filtered
 shower head
 has turned yellow after being used for only a while.

Woman C: What?!
 I use filtered shower head too.
 But I didn't see anything dirty in the filter cartridge.
 Does water quality differ between districts or housing
 estates?

Woman B: Let's ask Dr. Chan!

Super: Ir Dr Chan Hon Fai
 Chairperson of the Drinking Water Safety Advisory
 Committee

Dr Chan Hon Fai: It is common to find sediment in drinking water.

This is because our drinking water contains trace amount of natural minerals.

For example, calcium, magnesium and iron.

They are safe to our health.

Also,

in early days, galvanized pipes are commonly used for inside service water supply.

Galvanizing is primarily for rust prevention.

After a long time,

this rust-preventive function is lost,

and pipes rust.

The rust then falls into the drinking water and turns the water yellow.

Woman C: No wonder some people see a yellow tinge in filter cartridge of their filtered shower heads.

Dr Chan Hon Fai: Correct.

Woman B: Dr. Chan, what are the blue particulates found in the strainers of water taps?

Dr Chan Hon Fai: During the replumbing works of copper pipes in a building, the flux used in soldering of new copper pipes oxidizes the copper pipes to form copper oxides. Copper oxides are blue. If flushing has not been conducted thoroughly after the replumbing work, the copper oxides could remain inside the pipes and are found in our drinking water, causing blue particulates at our strainers.

Woman A: Does this affect our drinking water quality?

Dr Chan Hon Fai: These oxides are insoluble in water,
 they do not affect our health.
 All you need to do is to clean the strainers regularly,
 this ensures the safety of the drinking water.

Woman A: We got it.

Women A, B and C: Thank you, Dr. Chan!

Super: Water Supplies Department logo
