

Face Reality

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Solving the Cosmetics Conundrum

For centuries, women with acne have grappled with an apparently unsolvable riddle: I want to use cosmetics to make my skin look as good as possible, but how can I when cosmetics usually irritate my acne?

One might think that the advent of sophisticated acne medications would solve the problem. After all, you put on this great medicine, it heals your acne and voila!...your skin looks great from every aspect. Right?

Well, not exactly. For some women this may hold true. But the fact is that often times, anti-acne formulas actually make certain skin problems worse, especially when women start adding one or more cosmetic applications to their skin.

"Most anti-acne medications are very drying," says Zoe Draelos, MD, a dermatologist in North Carolina. "That causes a problem even before any make-up is applied."

Not only does this hurt, but such reactions can make already damaged skin look worse. For example, Draelos says, "The medication's drying effects

may cause your skin to become very flaky or chalky." Then not only doesn't your make-up go on smoothly, but cosmetics may increase the flakiness, creating a generally unattractive look.

A perfect example, Draelos says, is what happens when women with acne use face powder. "Lots of women powder their face, especially if it tends to be shiny or oily. The plus side to this is that the powder may decrease shine and help keep any foundation on. But the downside is that powder only enhances any flakiness already created by the medication a woman may be using."

But what if an acne medication not only successfully helped fight acne, but worked with your make-up, so your skin could look as nice as possible while treating your acne? Dr. Draelos says that is a benefit of azelaic acid, an acne-fighting medication for mild-to-moderate inflammatory acne.

Dr. Draelos recently conducted a study to determine the compatibility of Azelex® with a variety of facial foundations. The study included forty female patients, (Continued on page 2)

How Bad Is It?

Understanding Acne Classification

How severely you are affected by acne — both physically and psychologically — helps your doctor choose the best treatment. Any degree of acne can be upsetting. For some women, any degree of acne is terrible. But that's not the way a physician looks at your face. Dermatologists define acne as mild, moderate, or severe depending on the number and type of lesions and the risk of scarring. Such classification is important because it helps the doctor decide what medications to prescribe to treat your acne. Here's the system they use:

Definition	What it is
Mild acne	Open and closed comedones (blackheads and whiteheads) with some papules and pustules
Moderate acne	Greater number of papules, pustules and comedones, with some potential for mild scarring
Severe acne	Nodular and cystic abscesses (in addition to comedones, papules and pustules) with the potential for extensive scarring

"Hello" from Allergan

Welcome to the world of healthy, beautiful skin! That's the promise of Allergan Skin Care.

Allergan has been a driving force in dermatology for more than 30 years, dedicated to meeting the needs of patients and physicians with the most advanced ingredients possible -- specifically developed to enhance the appearance of your skin, or treat skin disease.

Our science-based approach to skin care is reflected by an array of products with distinct therapeutic features. One of the latest of these products is Azelex® (azelaic acid cream) 20%, the first prescription drug introduced in the U.S. specifically for mild-to-moderate inflammatory acne vulgaris in 10 years.

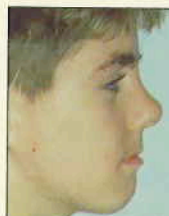
We offer pioneering expertise in alpha hydroxy acid research and a complete line of aesthetic skin care products. These include skin cleansers, treatments, and moisturizers from Aqua Glycolic® (available in drug stores and pharmacies), M.D. Formulations® (available from licensed aestheticians), and M.D. Forte® (available from dermatologists).

With this first issue of Face Reality, we are launching a new initiative to help women understand how best to take care of their skin and assure its health and beauty. In future issues, we will keep you up-to-date on new research and new products that can help you toward that goal. If you have any skin care questions, please fax or write to us. Here's how to connect with us:

FACE REALITY c/o Manning Selvage & Lee, 79 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016, or fax: (212) 213-7016.

What it looks like

Mild acne



Moderate acne



Severe acne

