Hair is not only strands of horn made mainly of keratin. Hair indicates someone's personal beliefs or social status. The matter of hair care / grooming is not entirely all about women. For men, a well-kept, thick head of hair brings added good looks. However, there is more to it. Nowadays, social media, most of all Instagram, influences different generations. Besides skin, hair is the characteristic attribute for health, youth and attraction. Hair can even be a communication and political instrument. Just take as an example the men who let grow a moustache of their own style every November of a year, the so called Movember, to raise funds for men's health. Plenty of products and treatments are ready to fit the modern hair care market for thin, thick, curly, dry, oily, blonde, coloured, ethnic, young, or old hair. Imagine a claim, the product is already invented. As hair is unique, personalised products flood the hair care market. Respectively, a great number of claims around the various products exists. Hair care rituals can be complemented with food supplements and treatment devices.

Además de la piel, el cabello representa un atributo social característico de la salud, la juventud y la atracción. Multitud de productos y tratamientos están listos para ser adaptados al nuevo mercado de cuidado del cabello, específicamente para tratar cabellos finos, gruesos, rizados, secos, grasos, coloreados, jóvenes, envejecidos... Existe un gran número de afirmaciones en torno a los distintos productos existentes en el ámbito del cuidado capilar.

In this study, we assessed the change in skin microbiota composition, relative abundance, and diversity with skin physiology disruption induced by SLS patch. Healthy women declaring to have a reactive skin were submitted to a 0.5% aqueous sodium lauryl sulfate solution application under occlusive patch condition for 24 h. Skin properties were characterized by tewametry, corneometry, and colorimetry and bacterial diversity was assessed by 16S rRNA sequencing. Analysis before and one day after SLS patch removal revealed an increase of skin redness and a decrease of stratum corneum hydration and skin barrier function. The relative abundance of taxa containing potential pathogens increase (Firmicutes: Staphylococcaceae; Proteobacteria: Enterobacteriaceae, Pantoea) while some of the most occurring Actinobacteria with valuable skin protection and repair capacities decreased (Micrococcus, Kocuria, and Corynebacterium). We observed an impaired skin barrier function and dehydration induced by SLS patch disturb the subtle balance of skin microbiota towards skin bacterial community dysbiosis. This study provides new insights on the skin bacterial composition and skin physiology simultaneously impaired by a SLS patch.

Nagłówki w czasopismach i blogi coraz częściej ogłaszają, że „50 lat to nowe 30”. Czy to faktycznie prawda? Czy osoby „po pięćdziesiątce” rzeczywiście są dziś bardziej sprawne fizycznie i umysłowo – i wyglądają młodsze – niż kiedyś?

The interest in wound healing goes back to the beginning of history and has not diminished throughout the centuries also because practical implications of wound healing studies have remained
very relevant for public health. During the last century, much progress has been made in the understanding of basic mechanisms of skin wound healing, and it has been realized that healing processes evolve similarly in various organs. It has been established that fibrotic diseases are regulated by analogous mechanisms, albeit less controlled, compared to those regulating wound healing. Moreover, many advances, such as the use of antisepsics and, later, of antibiotics, as well as the introduction of skin transplants have facilitated the treatment of wounds. It has been shown that wound healing evolution depends on several factors including the type of injury causing the damage, the tissue and/or organ affected, and the genetic or epigenetic background of the patient. This Compendium has the merit of discussing a broad spectrum of topics, including the general biology of wound healing, modern diagnostic approaches, and therapeutic tools, applied to many different clinical situations. It should be of interest to teachers, students, and clinicians working in different aspects of wound healing biology and pathology. I am sure that it will rapidly become an important reference book in these fields.

Y. Wu, F. Yi, M. Akimoto, T. Tanaka, H. Meng, Y. Dong, **Objective measurement and comparison of human facial skin color in East Asian females**, Skin Research & Technology, Volume 26, Issue 4, July 2020, p. 584-590

Background: Skin color is an important physiological index of human skin that has essential significance in cosmetology and dermatological diagnoses and aesthetics, especially in East Asian culture, where the beauty standard is the whiter the skin, the more beautiful a person is. However, there has been a lack of objective comparisons of facial skin color in East Asian females. Materials and Methods: Skin color at the cheek site was measured in 445 healthy females, including 362 Chinese women in Beijing and 83 Japanese women in Tokyo, all aged 18-50 years. The parameters consisted of L*, a*, b*, individual typology angle (ITA°), and hue angle and were determined using noninvasive skin measurement instruments. Results: The skin color categories in East Asians ranged from very light (I) to brown (V), and the dark (VI) category was not observed; the main categories were light (II), intermediate (III), and tan (IV). The facial skin color of Chinese individuals was brighter, more reddish, and less yellowish than that of Japanese individuals. With age, L* values decreased, and a* values and hue angle increased in East Asians with significant differences. Chinese women showed the same differences as Japanese women for all parameters in all age groups. Conclusions: This study provides objective skin color measurements and examines significant differences with respect to geographic location and age.


Background Fractional radiofrequency (RF) has been used for skin rejuvenation and tightening by dermatologists and cosmetic surgeons in recent years. Methods Twenty female patients (mean age of 51.9 years) with Fitzpatrick III to VI skin phototypes who desired to undergo skin lift/tightening received six sessions of fractional microneedle RF treatment and were assessed at baseline and then 3 months after the last session for biometric characteristics using a Colorimeter, Visioface 1000D, Tewameter, Cutometer, Mexameter, and Sebumeter and a skin ultrasound imaging system to evaluate the transepidermal water loss (TEWL), skin pores, color, melanin content, erythema, sebaceous content, and thickness and density of the epidermis and dermis. Patient satisfaction with visual analog scale (VAS) was also measured. Results The results showed that skin pores and spots decreased significantly. TEWL also decreased significantly (by 18.44%). Meanwhile, skin density increased significantly (R7, by 44.41%). The ultrasonographic assessments showed that both the density and thickness of the dermis and epidermis were increased. The changes in the other parameters were not significant. Conclusion FR increases the density and thickness of the dermis and thus also increases the collagen content and decreases skin pores and TEWL.

C. Uhl, D. Khazaka, **Measuring skin’s “true age”**, PERSONAL CARE June 2020, p. 66-68

The human desire to look young is as old as mankind and our skin plays central role in this craving. Even in ancient civilizations, people developed formulations for creams, tonics and bath additives to keep skin young and beautiful. The physiological process of skin ageing involves structural, biochemical and functional changes. Starting at approximately age 25, the content of collagen and other components of the connective tissue, such as elastin or hyaluronic acid, in the skin continuously decreases. This gradually results in a loss of bound water, leading to a deterioration of the water-protein interaction and an alteration of the overall protein stability.

A. Charpentier, **Clinically supporting ‘antiage’ and ‘pro-age’ claims**, Personal Care Europe, June 2020, p. 1-3
Claims of personal care evolve following trends and various innovations in the field of the active ingredient development, the finished product formulation and the way both are evaluated, demonstrating their performances. Since 2014, the cosmetics industry is gradually leaving the era of anti-ageing behind. Today, most consumers are more in the mood for a well ageing, slow ageing or pro ageing approach. The philosophy of the ‘pro-ageing’ movement has sought to remove all ‘anti’ claims because, according to this concept, women over 50 are not interested in looking younger; they want to look healthy and be honest about their age. Some brands have used the idea of “improves the appearance of skin quality”, and “restore the skin comfort”, for example. A new vocabulary of renewal, regeneration, plumpness and “glow” now dominates the language of the beauty industry.

M. Milani, B. Hashthroody, M. Piacentini, L. Celleno, Skin protective effects of an antipollution, antioxidant serum containing Deschampsia antartica extract, ferulic acid and vitamin C: a controlled single-blind, prospective trial in women living in urbanized, high air pollution area, Clinical, Cosmetic and Investigational Dermatology 2019:12, p. 393–399

Introduction: Air pollution causes skin damage and favors skin aging processes such as dark spots and wrinkles, through oxidative stress. Pollutant substances accelerate skin aging through a specific activation of intracellular receptors called AhR (aryl-hydrocarbon receptors). Deschampsia antartica aqueous extract (DAE) has shown to counteract the pollutantinduced AhR activation. Ferulic acid (FA) and vitamin C (VC) are potent antioxidant substances. A serum containing DAE/FA/VC has been recently developed. So far, no clinical data are available regarding the protective actions of this serum against the detrimental effects of air pollution on the skin. Objective: We conducted a prospective, single-blind, 28-day study to assess efficacy and protective effects against air pollution skin damage of a new serum containing Deschampsia antartica extract. Materials and methods: Twenty, photo type I–III, women (mean age 42 years) with at least three dark spots on the face, living in a homogenous urbanized, high pollution area (Rome) were evaluated. The objectives of the study were to evaluate the effects of treatment on skin barrier function, assessed by transepidermal water loss (TEWL) measurement (Tewameter), the effect on dark spots, evaluated by means of colorimetry (Colorimeter CL 400), and the effect on squalene peroxide (SQOOH)/squalene (SQ) skin ratio assessed with face swabs. Results: The trial was conducted between November 20 and December 19, 2018. In comparison with baseline, the product induced a significant improvement of skin hydration (-19% of TEWL), a significant improvement of dark spots (+7%) and a significant improvement of SQOOH/SQ ratio (-16%). The product was evaluated very well by >90% of the treated subjects regarding cosmetic acceptability. Discussion: A serum containing DAE/FA/VC has shown to improve skin barrier function, to reduce dark spots and to counteract the skin oxidative stress in women living in high pollution urban area.


Objectives: In view of the lack of studies about the morphological and structural changes caused by solar radiation in young people, the aim of the present study was to evaluate the photoageing related changes in the skin of different age groups by biophysical and imaging techniques. Methods: Forty four healthy female subjects were divided into two age groups: Group 1 (G1): 18-35 years old and Group 2 (G2): 40-60 years old. The skin of malar region of the face was evaluated in terms of mechanical properties, disorder in the pigmentation pattern, morphological and structural changes using the Cutometer®, Colorimeter®, Visioface® and Dermascan C® devices and reflectance confocal microscopy (Vivascope®). Results: The results showed that the main changes in the skin of G1 were related to the pigmentation pattern, the papilla format and depletion of thin collagen fibres. These alterations were also observed in the skin of G2, but with more pronounced effects. Conclusion: The knowledge about the skin changes caused by photoageing obtained in this study is very important for the development of dermocosmetic products for more effective treatments particularly focused on this type of skin. Finally, objective characterization of photoageing showed the importance of photoprotective habits since the first years of life in order to retard the appearance of skin changes caused by solar radiation.

L. Xiao, B.Che, H. Lu, J. Li, G. Zhou, Y. E, Evaluation of a Scalp Essence on Human Scalp Health and Subclinical Conditions Based on Multiple Dimensions Physiological and Biological Approaches, presentation at the 25th IFSCC Conference Milan, October 2019

Varieties of methods have long been considered to evaluate cosmetic efficacies and health benefits on hair care and scalp care products. In general, scalp health and its conditions are normally determined at the following dimensions including scalp hydration level, scalp oil level, dandruff scale, scalp micro-organism conditions, and scalp sensations such as itching, stinging, burning, pain, numb, and other related scalp sensational issues. It is believed that scalp health conditions are influenced by
hair cleansing habits, scalp microorganism environment, inflammatory lesions such as psoriasis, and hair follicle health status. On the other hand, scalp health and its conditions are also well documented and determined by Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) theories and clinical diagnosis. This is because TCM practitioners consider most of the symptoms such as scalp conditions through an integral grading system as Qi-Blood, of which represents functions of vital energy and nutritional supporting mass respectively, range from balance to stagnation and to deficiency including the deficiency of vital energy, stagnation of the circulation of vital energy, weakness of vital energy, deficiency of blood, stasis of Blood, cold in Blood, heat in Blood, to stagnation of vital energy and Blood stasis, and both Qi-Blood deficiency, etc. Here, we considered to measure hair follicle hydrocortisone level one of the TCM Qi-Blood markers. This presented study focused on evaluation of a commercial scalp essence with an integrated quantification method on human subject scalp moisture, dandruff, redness, acidity, sensations, hair quality, as well as Qi-Blood based on TCM categorized as Blood balance, stagnation and deficiency.


Background: Facial skin exhibits unique biophysical properties, which are influenced by anatomical regions and genders. The aim of this study was to comprehensively assess the regional and gender differences in facial skin biophysical parameters among Chinese population. Materials and Methods: The 12 skin biophysical parameters at four distinct facial skin sites (forehead, cheek, canthus and chin) were measured in a normal population (n = 212) with 42 males and 141 females aged 18-29 years living in Beijing. These parameters consisted of skin hydration, transepidermal water loss, sebum content, erythema/melanin indices, L*a*b* color, skin gloss and elasticity, all quantifying with non-invasive instruments. Results: The results demonstrated that the characteristics of the facial skin were significantly different between the regions and genders. The forehead had weaker skin barrier function but secreted the most sebum content, while the cheek was the driest and brightest region on the face. The canthus was the most hydrated area and the chin displayed higher sebum secretion, darker skin color and less elastic. The females showed more hydrated, less oil, lighter and more elastic facial skin compared with males. Conclusion: This study indicates that the young Chinese facial skin significantly varies with face anatomical regions and differs between genders.

C. Uhl, Efficacy testing of microbiome skin care, PERSONAL CARE EUROPE, April 2019, p. 41-45,


For years now, we have accepted the idea that we can nourish our intestinal tract with dedicated bacterial ingredients from food supplements and thereby improve our general health. Books written on this subject have become bestsellers. But why should we focus only on our intestinal tract? There are so many different microbial communities that can be found on and inside our body. Especially the colonization of the skin being our largest organ, tangible to the hands, visible to the eye, and in constant contact with the outside environment has moved to the front of cosmetic research. The idea of being a complex ecosystem is adding to the existing trend of personalised cosmetics, and will confirm the customer in their feeling of uniqueness.

В течение многих лет мы принимали идею о том, что можем обогащать наш кишечный тракт специальными бактериальными ингредиентами из пищевых добавок и тем самым улучшать общее состояние здоровья. Книги, написанные на эту тему, стали бестселлерами. Но можем ли мы сосредотачиваться только на нашем кишечном тракте?

O microbioma cutâneo é a população de micorganismos que habita a pele. Neste trabalho, o autor apresenta uma breve descrição da importância da atividade do microbioma e dos meios analíticos instrumentais para medir a eficácia de produtos cosméticos de interesse do microbioma cutâneo.


The many environmental factors related to modern lifestyle generate a skin imbalance that leads to premature ageing. In this study, we evaluate the capacity of a new skin delivery system based on bicosomes (named bicosome-xanthin) to provide intense detox and revert the signs of ageing. This system was specially designed to incorporate, stabilise and deliver microalgae extract into deep skin layers. Bicosome-xanthin proved to be effective in protecting the skin against pollution particles and to prevent 90% of the damage caused by blue light. This extraordinary ingredient also proved in vivo to
boost the skin’s antioxidant capacity and barrier function, to accelerate epidermal cell renewal, improve skin brightness and firmness, and visibly reduce wrinkles.


Browsing a cosmetic counter, searching online or tuning into home shopping networks, one cannot help but notice the ever-increasing number of cosmetic and personal care products purporting to be green, natural or organic that are obviously targeting the rapidly growing environmentally conscious consumer and spa markets. Entire sections of exhibitions and trade shows have been dedicated.

**D. Cobiella, L. Archer, M. Bohannon, D. Santoro,** *Pilot study using five methods to evaluate skin barrier function in healthy dogs and in dogs with atopic dermatitis*, Vet. Dermatology, January 2019

Background: Atopic dermatitis is associated with skin barrier defects. In people, noninvasive techniques are used to quantify the skin barrier functionality. In dogs, transepidermal water loss (TEWL), stratum corneum hydration and pH have been used to assess skin barrier function. However, few studies have determined their repeatability. Objective: To assess the repeatability of measurements of skin hydration, TEWL, pH, skin absorbance and erythema in healthy and atopic dogs. Animals: Fifteen healthy and 15 atopic privately owned dogs. Methods and materials: Three repeated measurements using Corneometer® , Skin-pH-Meter® , Colorimeter® and VapoMeter® were obtained from inguinal, axilla, pinna and interdigital space by three investigators. Intra- and interobserver variability (coefficient of variation, correlation coefficients and intraclass correlation coefficients) and difference between the two groups (t-test or Mann–Whitney U-test) were determined. Results: High repeatability and low variation were observed both intra- and interobservers for all devices except the VapoMeter®. The most repeatable device was the Skin-pH-Meter® , whereas the VapoMeter® was the device with the highest intra- and interobserver variability. Atopic dogs had a significantly increased pH (inguinal $P = 0.03$; axilla $P = 0.02$) and erythema (inguinal $P = 0.01$; axilla $P = 0.02$) compared to healthy dogs. No differences between the two groups were detected using the Corneometer® , VapoMeter® or Colorimeter® (tartrazine absorption). Conclusion and clinical significance: The results of this pilot study support the use of Corneometer®, Skin-pH-Meter® and Colorimeter® in the assessment of skin barrier function in dogs; further investigations to optimize measurements and confirm these results are needed.

**M. Portugal-Cohen, Z. Ma’or, M. Oron,** *Full Scale Customization*, Cosmetics & Toiletries, Vol 133, No. 9, September 2018

The drive for personalized consumer products is no longer a passing fad. Personalization stems from deep motivations. The emotional wish to purchase products created "especially for me" comes across with an understanding of diversity between individuals and the prospects for more effective solutions to meet each individual’s special needs. However, efforts to introduce personalized skin care—i.e., for unique skin with distinctive characteristics — on an industrial scale means products formulated for generalized needs, which could not be as effective.

**D. Khazaka, C. Uhl,** *Nails: more than just skin extensions*, PERSONAL CARE ASIA, May 2018, p. 33-35

The horn-like envelopes covering the tips of our fingers and toes are called nails. They are highly specialised epidermal appendages. Finger- and toenails are made out of a tough fibrous protein, the alphakeratin. The nail consists of the nail plate, the nail matrix and the nail bed below it, and the grooves surrounding it. Apart from the aesthetical aspect, a healthy fingernail has the function of protecting the fingertip and the surrounding skin from injuries and preventing the skin at the end of fingers and toes from rolling backwards over the distal phalanx. The nail helps to improve sensitivity and the grip of the fingers and also enables the precise manipulation of small objects through counter-pressure exerted on the pulp of the distal digits (e.g. pulling out a splinter in one’s finger), as well as certain cutting or scraping actions.

**M. Mendes Fossa Shirata, P. Maria Berardo Gonçalves Maia Campos,** *Evaluation of Young Skin Photoaging Using Biophysical and Imaging Techniques*, Poster Presentation at ISBS Conference San Diego, May 2018

Introduction: Photoaging is associated to an intense solar exposure, thus the photoaging signs can be observed also in the young skin, mainly in countries with high UV incidence, like Brazil. The aim of this study was to evaluate the skin changes resulted from photoaging in Brazilian young skin in comparison to photoaged mature skin. Methodology: Thirty participants were divided in two groups: the
first between 18 to 35 years old and the second, 40 to 60 years old. Analyzes were performed on the randomized facial malar region. TEWL, stratum corneum water content, sebum content, high resolution imaging, echogenicity and dermis thickness, skin color and elasticity parameters were analyzed. Results and Conclusions: The obtained results showed that sun exposure can cause changes even in the young skin, with the appearance of spots and the reduction of the echogenicity of the dermis, besides there were no significant differences between young skin and mature skin in most parameters. In conclusion, signs of photoaging may be frequent even in young skin.


Objective: A study was established to objectively assess the effects of low-intensity electromagnetic and electric stimulation plus negative pressure on mature scars. Background: Radiofrequency plus negative pressure therapy demonstrated a favorable reorganization and regeneration of the collagen and elastic fibers and was proposed for the treatment of cellulitis and skin stretch marks. Methods: Twenty-six mature scars in 20 Caucasian patients (15 females and 5 males) were enrolled in the study. The treatments were carried out with a Class I, BF-type electromedical device equipped with a radiofrequency generator, an electric pulse generator, and a vacuum pump twice a week for 3 months. Corneometry, transepidermal water loss, elastometry, colorimetry, and three-dimensional skin surface pattern were objectively assessed with Multi Probe Adapter System MPA and PRIMOS pico. A subjective assessment was carried out with the VAS and PSAS scales. Each scar was compared before and after the treatment and with the skin in the corresponding healthy contralateral anatomical area at the same times. Results: Reduction of the scar surface wrinkling and overall scar flattening were demonstrated after the treatment. The scar slightly tended to approach the color and elasticity of healthy skin too. Conclusions: The combined local treatment of mature scars with low-intensity electromagnetic and electric stimulation in association with negative pressure might suggest a favorable synergic effect on the scar collagen and elastic fiber remodeling.

J. Kitsongsermthon, K. Duangweang, J. Kreepoke, A. Tansirikongkol, In vivo cleansing efficacy of biodegradable exfoliating beads assessed by skin bioengineering techniques, Skin Research and Technology 2017; 23: p. 525-530

Background/purpose: The plastic microbeads, used in many cleansers, will be banned in cosmetic and personal care products within 2017 since they are non-degradable and can disturb the living organisms in water reservoirs. Various choices of biodegradable beads are commercially available, but their efficacy has not been proven yet. This study aimed to compare the cleansing efficacy in dirt and sebum removal aspects of three types of exfoliating beads. Methods: The gel scrubs with polyethylene (PE) beads, mannan beads or wax beads, were formulated and evaluated for their stability. The gel scrubs did not cause an irritation in any volunteers. The differences in dirt residue were between before and after scrubbing were not statistically significant among three gel scrubs and the similar result was also reported in the sebum removal study. Conclusion: All gel scrubs demonstrated the comparable cleansing efficacy in term of dirt and sebum removal. Thus, mannan beads and wax beads may be replaced nonbiodegradable PE beads to achieve the similar cleansing effect.


The most commonly used method for color assessment is tristimulus reflectance colorimetry. It represents color in the same way as the human eye does. The level of light is reflected through three broad wavelength filters and the color is described by three values: L*, the lightness or brightness; a*, the amount of green or red (redness) and b*, the amount of yellow or blue (pigmentation). Both the Minolta Chromameter® and the Colorimeter® are tristimulus devices and measure L*, a* and b* values.

A.C. da Silva Marques, Biometric Evaluation of Cosmetic Products, Dissertation in pharmaceutical sciences at the University of Coimbra, 2016

Given the growing importance that cosmetic products have on human's health and in our daily life, it is important to increase the control of these products, both in terms of safety and effectiveness. Taking into account that conducting animal tests for the production and validation of cosmetic products is prohibited by law, producers of these products have to resort to alternative methods. Biophysical methods have gained an important highlight in the scientific community, in particular the non-invasive methods. They allow a safe and faster evaluation of cosmetics. The purpose of this work is to describe
some methods and equipments used at national and European level to test the effectiveness of cosmetic products and correlate the parameters evaluated with the alleged properties in the products. The methods include evaluation tests of the following skin properties: hydration, elasticity, coloring, sebum production and perspiration.


Abstract: Background: Problematic scarring remains a challenging aspect to address in the treatment of burns and can significantly affect the quality of life of the burn survivor. At present, there are few treatments available in the clinic to control adverse scarring, but experimental pharmacological anti-scarring strategies are now beginning to emerge. Their comparative success must be based on objective measurements of scarring, yet currently the clinical assessment of scars is not carried out systematically and is mostly based on subjective review of patients. However, several techniques and devices are being introduced that allow objective analysis of the burn scar. The aim of this article is to evaluate various objective measurement tools currently available and recommend a useful panel that is suitable for use in clinical trials of anti-scarring therapies.

C.Y. Wright, M. Wilkes, J.L. du Plessis, A.I. Reeder, P.N. Albers, In multiple situational light settings, visual observation for skin colour assessment is comparable with colorimeter measurement, Skin Research and Technology 2016; 22: 305-310

Background: Finding inexpensive and reliable techniques for assessing skin colour is important, given that it is related to several adverse human health outcomes. Visual observation is considered a subjective approach assessment and, even when made by trained assessor, concern has been raised about the need for controlled lighting in the study venue. The aim of this study is to determine whether visual skin colour assessments correlate with objective skin colour measurements in study venues with different lighting types and configurations.


The aim of the study was an objective in vivo assessment of skin properties after reconstruction with two artificial dermal substitutes, Integra® and Hyalomatrix®. Twenty-seven patients underwent reconstruction of 36 skin-loss sites with full-thickness skin graft, split-thickness skin graft, Hyalomatrix® bioengineered skin substitute and sequential split-thickness skin graft and Integra® bioengineered skin substitute and sequential split-thickness skin graft. Objective assessments were carried out using three instrumental devices: Multi Probe Adapter System MPA; 22 MHz ultrasound skin scan; and Primos Pico for a three-dimensional (3D) skin scan. The skin parameters under study in our sample were: corneometry, transepidermal water loss, elastometry, colorimetry, skin thickness and 3D skin surface pattern. A skin reconstruction with Hyalomatrix seemed to most closely approach the hydration, transepidermal water loss and skin surface 3D pattern of normal skin. A skin reconstruction with Integra seemed to demonstrate the best skin colour feature and elastic properties. Although no statistically significant differences were observed, the descriptive analysis of the outcomes might suggest a better cell regulation, regenerated extracellular matrix and neoangiogenesis with the use of Hyalomatrix, and the formation of a more elastic regenerated dermis, with overall better physical, mechanical and optical properties, with the use of Integra.


Calculation of Individual Typology Angle (ITA) based on spectrophotometric measurements has been used to classify skin types into physiologically relevant groups,1 ranging from very light to dark skin.2 This study directly compares ITA values with melanin index (MI), the latter frequently used in assigning Fitzpatrick Skin Type (FST).3 in order to improve understanding of how these measurements correlate when used in a study that consists, primarily, of FST V and VI. Methods: Participants (n=556) were drawn from the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research campus in Pretoria, South Africa, from October 6-22, 2014. All participants provided written consent, spoke English, cleaned their non-dominant arm with a wet wipe, and answered a short questionnaire, self-identifying their population group and skin reaction to sunlight. Courage+Khazaka Skin Colorimeter CL 400 and Mexameter® MX 18 objectively determined ITA and MI respectively, by being held against the upper, inner non-dominant arm. ITA was categorized as previously described.
O. Freis, G. Perie, A. Rathjens, **Correlating Aging with Skin’s Mechanical and Optical Properties**, Cosmetics and Toiletries, April 21, 2014

The evolution of skin’s biomechanical and optical properties as a function of aging and/or photoaging is one of the main targets of cosmetic and dermatological research. Many noninvasive devices to measure skin’s biomechanical properties have been developed using alternative methods such as stretching, torsion, indentation and suction. Measurements of skin deformation after suction or torsion are the most widely used techniques in cosmetic research. The skin’s optical properties play an important role as well, and devices measuring these characteristics assess reflected light after illumination of the skin surface. Different noninvasive methods have been proposed for evaluating skin complexion in vivo. These include quantitative measurements of skin color, using colorimetry—i.e., L*a*b* and Individual Typological Angle (ITA°); or of the intensity of specular reflection and the back-scattering of light from the skin. The purpose of this study was to demonstrate the evolution of the measured parameters with aging, and to find the correlation between measured mechanical and optical properties of the skin.

A. Mondelli, G.F. Secchi, **Proteins in pre-colouring hair care products: improving hair dyes performance on damaged hair**, Poster In-cosmetics, Paris 2013

The ability of different hydrolysed proteins applied on bleached and with different diameter (Russian and Indian) hair before colouring to improve colour deposition and retention over time after washing cycles was studied. The test showed that application on hair of the hydrolysed proteins before hair colouring can improve colour deposition and retention respect to the control tresses; colour deposition and retention are pre-treatment water solution protein content dependent.

C. Uhl, D. Khazaka, **Techniques for globally approved skin testing**, Personal Care April 2013

In efficacy testing and claim support for cosmetic products, objective measurement systems became indispensable long ago, especially since subjective clinical assessments are often prone to bias and inter-observer variation. Without suitable instrumentation it is close to impossible to determine what a product is really doing for the skin. Those objective measurement methods and subjective evaluations are mutually dependent. No measurement can be performed without the subjective evaluation of the results by the user of such instrumentation. However, a pure subjective evaluation of the skin without appropriate measurement techniques is not able to achieve accurate results either. This relationship becomes clearer when looking for example at skin colour measurements. Subjectively, the human brain cannot process slight changes in colour, especially when the colours are not viewed side by side, but at different points in time. Instrumental measurement however will clearly detect such slight changes. The achieved result must then be interpreted in context with the expected outcome or the hypothesis. For this, you will always need a knowledgeable and experienced person because ‘a fool with a tool is still a fool’, as the late Albert Kligman used to say. This relationship between objective measurement and subjective evaluation is not only true for the determination of differences in skin colour, but also for all other skin measurement parameters important for the cosmetic industry.

K. Fritz, **Skin physiologic changes before and after laser treatment**, IMCAS, Congress of Plastic Surgery and Dermatology, Lecture number: 5462

The aim of the study was to compare the changes of the biophysical properties and to objectify the effects of treatments with various lasers on skin physiology. Few studies have been reported to compare the effects of various lasers on the skin physiology which could result in a customized skin care post treatment recommendation. The recent development of various biophysical devices has made it possible to have more accurate and objective assessment methods. The functional properties of the skin are measured by utilizing non-invasive techniques, including the assessments for, skin color, trans-epidermal water loss (TEWL) and skin hydration and pH (Courage and Khazaka).

P. Humbert, A. Elkhyat, A. Gichard, J.M. Sainthillier, **Comparison between Colorimeter CL400 Courage-Khazaka and Chromameter CR400 Minolta**, CERT/Department of Dermatology, Besancon

The aim of this study was to compare 3 colorimetric devices: 2 probes of colorimeter (CK) and Chromameter (Minolta). Therefore, we assessed: …

A. del Pozo, M. Solans, C. Fernandez, M. Dolz, F. Corrias, M. Herráez, O. Diez-Sales, **Efficacy evaluation and characterization of chitosan nanoemulsions with Spirulina hydro-glycolic extract**, IFSCC Barcelona 2008 (Poster)

Nanoemulsions represent an interesting prospect for use as vehicles in the development of formulations to deliver active ingredients to the human body. Particularly, nanoemulsion formulations have been shown to be superior for transdermal and dermal delivery of hydrophilic and lipophilic
compounds, compared to conventional vehicles, such as hydrogels and emulsions [1]. Lecithins (phosphatidylcholines) have been used in several studies as surfactants for topical nanoemulsion vehicles. These surfactants are able to form nanoemulsions without co-surfactants.