









TRANSFORMATIVE BEFORE & AFTERS

50

FALL 2019

INNOVATIONS IN LASERS, PRP AND SURGERY

The BIG Injectable Debate nated to science, and then cultivate them in a lab where they are developed into multiple cell lines that can be licensed by brands to procure growth factors for their products. Nevertheless, it's often misconceived that in order for thousands of skin-care products to be created, an endless source of the human tissue is needed, when in fact, "the original few cells can be replicated in a lab and used continuously over time," Dr. Naughton says.

However, some brands still undergo scrutiny. One in particular, NeoCutis, formulates its products using proteins cultured from human embryonic stem cells, and has received backlash from pro-life watchdogs for doing so. (Although, the terminated pregnancy was medically necessary and donated to medical research with parental consent).

Experts also stress that not all types of human stem cells are beneficial for aesthetic rejuvenation. "The industry seems to have the mindset that anything these cells produce will be great for the skin and anti-aging, but that's not the case," Dr. Reath says. "While they all produce biological signals, each stem cell yields a very different pattern and array of them—some proteins will be anti-inflammatory and others pro-inflammatory. We know definitively that aging and inflammation run hand in hand, so cosmetic companies must make sure they're sourcing anti-inflammatory molecules."



THE DOCTOR IS IN

Why can't actual stem cells be applied to skin?

"They can't survive outside of their optimal lab environment because they break down when exposed to light and air," says Beverly Hills, CA dermatologist Ava Shamban, MD. "They're also essentially the size of a cruise ship compared to other skin-care ingredients, so they can't penetrate the skin's deeper layers where they are needed."

Should any ingredients be avoided when using growth factor products?

"Products that are highly acidic, such as vitamin C and alphahydroxy acids, can break down growth factor proteins," says Dr. Naughton. "Although skin has an excellent ability to restore a normal pH quickly, if such ingredients are used, you should wait 10 to 15 minutes before applying growth factors."

Can growth factors help boost collagen, too?

"SkinMedica scientists have shown that topical application of growth factors on a 3-D human skin model upregulates the genes responsible for collagen production," says Dr. Naughton. "Some research suggests the use of growth factors early on can help us 'bank' collagen, too, leaving us better off later in life, but more studies are needed."

How did SkinMedica TNS get nicknamed "the penis cream"?

As fun as it sounds, there are no male organs in the beloved TNS cream. "The growth factors in TNS were derived from neonatal foreskin cells taken from a donor more than 20 years ago for the purpose of treating acute burns, but were eventually found to also help reverse signs of aging," Dr. Naughton says.





DefenAge defenage.com

Three steps to beautiful new skin? **DefenAge Clinical Power Trio's** anti-aging system relies on state-ofthe-art peptides called defensins that activate skin cells and the skin's regenerative properties to deliver just that. This powerful combination dramatically minimizes the effects of aging, for fewer wrinkles and firmer, brighter skin.



unparalleled power

Alastin Skincare alastin.com/transform

Specially designed to use after fatreduction or skin-tightening procedures, **TransFORM Body Treatment with TriHex Technology®** can help accelerate the body's natural removal process of broken-down fat cells to enhance results. This rich cream supports the skin's natural ability to produce elastin and collagen for firmer, smoother skin, even when used alone.



youth in a bottle

Le Mieux lemieuxskincare.com

Harnessing the power of Alpine rose stem cells and age-reversing growth factors, the super potent **StemCell EGF** serum encourages the regeneration of new surface cells, assists in preventing collagen breakdown, and combats signs of environmental and UV damage. The end result: visibly minimized fine lines and wrinkles, and firm, soft, supple skin.



hydration station

Mass Eden masseden.com

Crafted for all skin types, specifically sensitive skin, *Light Oil* deserves a permanent placement in your skin-care routine—or your beau's beard routine. Five simple ingredients come together in this natural formula to hydrate and restore parched skin.





AnteAGE anteage.com

Powered by stem cell growth factors, the **Serum and Accelerator** system contains everything skin needs to restore its youthful glow. Fortified with classic anti-aging ingredients like hyaluronic acid and vitamin C, this two-step system reverses the causes of skin aging at the cellular level, helping to smooth wrinkles, minimize discoloration and leave skin more hydrated and radiant.