

TEEN TOPICS

Start The School Year Right With A Fresh Face

(NAPSA)—Let's face facts. As millions of teenagers get ready to head back to school, they may be hoping for the same thing: a fresh start and a fresh face.

Unfortunately, almost all teenagers experience at least an occasional whitehead, blackhead or pimple. Research shows stress from breakouts, coupled with the stress of returning to school, can have profound psychological effects on teenage acne patients. In fact, the recent Skin Matters Survey, conducted by Harris Interactive, found that 70 percent of teenagers feel pressure to have clear skin, and 60 percent of teenage girls think acne negatively affects their self-confidence.

Despite the availability of improved, effective acne treatments, teens continue to suffer from the negative impact that acne can have on social relationships and quality of life. The same survey determined less than half of teens (44 percent) feel knowledgeable about skin care and only 14 percent of teens with acne have seen a dermatologist specifically for their acne.

For teens, getting rid of embarrassing acne can be just as time consuming as picking out an outfit for the first day of school, so it's important to know how to avoid that breakout before it happens, and what to do if it does.

Acne is unique to every individual. The good news is that



Prescription acne medication can go a long way toward reducing teens' stress about their complexion during the school year.

today, there are many effective treatments that can help clear up virtually every type of acne and prevent new breakouts, so it's important to visit a dermatologist who can collaborate with you on a targeted skin care regimen. This regimen may include a prescription-strength treatment, such as a topical retinoid, which goes deep down to unclog pores and prevent breakouts. Retin-A Micro is the only acne medication with patented microspheres that contain tretinoin, the No. 1 prescribed retinoid by dermatologists. Microspheres help absorb excess oil, reduce facial shine and protect against irritation. Available in a unique and sleek pump, Retin-A Micro Pump delivers a consistent amount of medication with each use, making treatment easy. For full prescribing information, visit www.RetinAMicro.com.

Note to Editors: Retin-A Micro (tretinoin gel) microsphere, 0.04% and 0.1% are indicated for topical application in the treatment of acne vulgaris. Retin-A Micro 0.04% and 0.1% showed a visible reduction in total mean lesion count in as little as two weeks with full benefit of therapy seen after seven weeks. The most common adverse reactions to Retin-A Micro 0.04% and 0.1% were limited to mild or moderate irritation of the skin. 1.3% of patients using Retin-A Micro 0.04% and 6% of patients using Retin-A Micro 0.1% discontinued due to irritation.