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RETIN-A/TRETINOIN/DIFFERIN/TAZORAC

- These medications affect the growth of skin cells and help the cells shed more easily so pores do not become plugged.
- Wash face with mild, non-medicated soap and allow to dry for 20-30 minutes before applying medication
- Apply a pea sized amount to face (more medication does not mean it will work better or faster and may cause more irritation). Minimize the amount applied to the eyelids, the angles of the nose and the corners of the mouth to decrease the chance of irritating these areas.
- You may feel a burning sensation or stinging immediately after applying medication.
- Skin redness, dryness, itching, scaling, mild burning or worsening of acne may occur during the first 2-4 weeks of use. These effects usually decrease with continued use. You can use skin moisturizing creams or lotions to help reduce these side effects. Make sure the lotion/cream does not cause acne (bottle should state does not cause acne, non-acnegenic or non-comedogenic)
- If the side effects persist, you may want to decrease your use of the medication to once every 2 or 3 days.
- During first few weeks of using medication, your acne might appear worse because the medication is working on pimples forming inside the skin. It may take 6 weeks to notice results from this medication.
- ✓ STOP using the medication if you become pregnant or are breastfeeding.